



*Annual Report . . .*

**Lancaster, New Hampshire**

*1953*

## HIGHLIGHTS OF 1953 . . .

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Ended the year with a budget surplus of \$13,143.18

Completed construction of Grandview Drive and Summer St.

Town Office renovated — Town Hall Auditorium painted.

New street signs on 30 streets.

Spring flood caused damage of \$10,000.00 to highways — repaired in minimum time and cost.

Arthur Sherman re-elected to the Board of Selectmen.

Old Town Barn torn down and new salt and storage shed erected and land graded to beautify town property on Mechanic Street.

Established double entry bookkeeping to insure more adequate supervision of finances by the Town Manager.

Committee appointed to study a zoning law.

Lancaster observation post on 24 hour duty.

## COVER PHOTOGRAPH . . .

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Few towns are favored with such benevolent and generous people as Lancaster has in the Weeks family. Listed among the group of early settlers, each succeeding generation has retained a residence and deep interest in the town of their forefathers. Among the many gifts by this family are Weeks Memorial Library, Mt. Prospect State Park and most recently the Weeks Memorial Hospital, the latter being given in 1947.

The gift of the hospital provides the people of this area with the most modern and complete hospital in the northern section of the state. It has 43 beds and six bassinets and is fully equipped with complete X-Ray and Laboratory facilities.

Photo Courtesy of W. M. Schurman

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**of the**  
**TOWN OF LANCASTER, N. H.**

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**FOR THE PERIOD**  
**JANUARY 1, 1953 TO DECEMBER 31, 1953**  
**INCLUSIVE**

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**WITH THE REPORT OF**  
**THE LANCASTER SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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# TOWN OFFICERS

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Selectmen	Maynard G. White Ross F. Stanard Arthur G. Sherman
Moderator	Dana H. Lee
Town Clerk & Treasurer Town Manager Tax Collector & Overseer of Poor	Dorothy H. Cross Stephen A. Flis
Town Accountant	Donald E. Crane
Town Counsel	John E. Gormley
Health Officer	James A. Ferguson, M. D.
Supervisors of the Check List	Albert J. Kenney Edna B. Haley Lester E. Moses
Cemetery Committee	Hugh Galbraith Minnie Bronson Dorothy Johnson
Trustees of Trust Funds	Raymond W. McCaig James L. Dow Daniel A. O'Brien
Library Trustees	Grace H. Bragg Ethel McCarten Joseph E. Brown
Zoning Board of Adjustments	O. Leo Connary Harry J. Whitcomb John L. Barnes John E. Gormley

Budget Committee  
Members  
At Large

James L. Dow  
Harold Alden  
Donald McGoff  
Harford A. Nay  
Wallace Martin  
Wilbur M. Schurman  
John B. Evans  
Raymond W. Whitcomb  
Reynold Guilmette  
Ross Stanard  
John E. Gormley  
Jason Gessner

Selectmen  
School  
Precinct

Col. Town Investment  
Committee

Harry J. Whitcomb  
J. Wendall Kimball  
O. Leo Connary  
Daniel A. Sullivan  
O'Neil Twitchell  
Raymond W. McCaig  
Raymond F. Linscott

Col. Town Spending  
Committee

Margaret P. Guilmette  
Carroll Stoughton  
Priscilla Evans  
Clinton L. White  
George E. Hunter  
Arthur Drake  
James A. Feuguson  
Florence Q. Amadon  
Charles T. Bennett

Emmons Smith Fund  
Committee

Mertrude M. Cleaveland  
Enos G. Fay  
Mary H. Carey



# REPORT TO THE TAXPAYERS

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OF THE TOWN OF LANCASTER, N. H.

Fellow Citizens:

The annual Town Report covering the year ending December 31, 1953 is presented to you herewith, and I hope you will read it carefully. It is a report of a great many activities well carried out, which I am sure will be of lasting benefit to the taxpayers of the Town of Lancaster.

The Year 1953 proved to be an excellent year as was the previous year. In March we were hit by a devastating flood but by year's end all damaged roads and bridges have been restored to grade A condition. Many other accomplishments were made and are reported fully in the report.

It has been the principal objective of your Board of Selectmen and Town Manager to work for efficiency and economy in every function, and in every unit of your Town Government. We believe we have lived up to this principal for we ended the year with a surplus of \$13,143.18 and will be entering the new year with a current surplus of \$9,262.43.

In closing I wish to thank the Board of Selectmen and fellow employees for the fine cooperation they have extended to me in the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

STEPHEN A. FLIS,  
Town Manager.

# TOWN WARRANT

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## THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Lancaster, in the County of Coos in said State, qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Town Hall in said Lancaster on Tuesday, the ninth day of March next, at ten of the clock in the forenoon, to act upon the following subjects:

1. To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

2. To see if the town will vote to authorize the Selectmen and Town Treasurer to borrow a sum or sums not exceeding in the aggregate the amount of tax commitment of the previous year (1953) in anticipation of the collection of taxes for the current municipal year, and to issue in the name and on the credit of the town negotiable notes therefore, said notes to be paid in the current municipal year from the taxes collected during the current municipal year.

3. To see if the town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to administer or dispose of any real estate acquired by Tax Collectors' Deeds.

4. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Parking Meter By-Laws adopted May 1, 1948 by rescinding the amendment adopted at the Annual 1951 Town Meeting and providing in substitution therefore that use of the parking meters shall be placed in effect for the entire year (12 months).

5. To see if the Town will vote to discontinue as open highway and make subject to gates and bars the following part of Mill St.: Commencing at pin located at Corner of town property and property of Anislee McLean and running east until Mill St. intersects Mechanic St. The above said pin is 172.8 feet east from the intersecting line of Main St. and Mill St. (by Selectmen).

6. To see if the town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to appoint the town Manager as collector of taxes within and for said town, and to fix his compensation therefor as provided by laws of 1953, chapter 29.



7. To see if the town will vote to transfer to the Capital Reserve Fund the sum of \$5,000 from the surplus accumulated in 1953 in accordance with the provisions of chapter 160, laws of 1943, and amendments thereto (recommended by Budget Committee).

8. To see if the town will vote to install new metal Standard fixtures for new mercury lights in the central part of the town, and to make all necessary agreements therefor with the Public Service Company of New Hampshire. (Recommended by Budget Committee).

9. To see if the town will vote to accept the budget as submitted by the Budget Committee.

10. To direct how money raised for the above purposes be expended.

11. To act on any other business which may legally come before said meeting.

Given under our hands and seal this seventeenth day of February 1954.

M. G. WHITE,  
ROSS F. STANARD,  
ARTHUR G. SHERMAN,  
Selectmen of Lancaster

A true copy of warrant

Attest:

MAYNARD G. WHITE,  
ROSS F. STANARD,  
ARTHUR G. SHERMAN,  
Selectmen of Lancaster

# BUDGET FOR 1954

Listed below are the estimates of Revenue and Expenditures for the ensuing year January 1, 1954 to December 31, 1954.

In the revenue section are listed sources of revenue other than the amount raised by taxation. These are all estimates and are adjusted, by the State Tax Commission, at the time we receive our tax rate.

In the expenditures you may see that the requests are lower than 1953 and with our surplus we will in 1954 be raising less by taxation for the cost of operating the town's functions than in 1953.

## REVENUES

	Estimated 1953	Actual 1953	Estimated 1954
<b>From State:</b>			
Interest & Dividends Tax	\$ 9,500.00	\$ 8,966.01	\$ 8,950.00
Railroad Tax	750.00	832.72	830.00
Savings Bank Tax	800.00	818.47	800.00
Reim. a/c State & Federal			
Lands	200.00	225.93	151.92
Reim. a/c Growing Wood &			
Timber	2,300.00	1,691.38	1,600.00
National Forest Reserve	15.00	10.54	15.00
Reim. a/c OAA Recovery	100.00	861.13	300.00
Comm. for Head Tax			
Collections	0	689.64	600.00
<b>From Local Sources Except</b>			
<b>Taxes:</b>			
Dog Licenses	350.00	565.09	500.00
Business Lic. & Filing Fees	230.00	217.00	200.00
Fines & Forfeits	800.00	951.20	850.00
Rent of Town Buildings	1,200.00	1,551.80	1,300.00
Interest Received on Taxes	550.00	801.64	550.00
Motor Vehicle Permits	10,000.00	12,839.20	11,000.00
Parking Meters	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Sale of Town Property	1,000.00	1,282.48	500.00
Miscellaneous	0	1.02	0
Added Taxes	0	491.29	0

	Estimated 1953	Actual 1953	Estimated 1954
<b>Amount Raised by Notes:</b>			
Parking Lot Notes	3,000.00	3,000.00	0.
<b>From Local Taxes Other Than Property:</b>			
Poll Taxes	2,200.00	2,722.00	2,500.00
National Bank Stock	650.00	683.35	650.00
Totals	\$36,645.00	\$42,201.89	\$34,296.92

### EXPENDITURES

	Approp. 1953	Actual Expend. 1953	Selectmen Request 1954
<b>General Government:</b>			
Town Officers' Salaries	\$ 7,975.00	\$ 8,491.50	\$ 8,620.00
Town Officers' Expenses	4,175	6,757.91	4,025.00
Election & Registration	150.00	86.05	425.00
Municipal Court	500.00	500.00	500.00
Town Buildings	5,056.00	6,059.94	4,950.00
<b>Protection of Persons &amp; Property:</b>			
Police Dept.	8,965.00	7,790.17	8,365.00
Fire Dept.	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,500.00
Blister Rust	50.00	0	50.00
Insurance	3,016.49	3,407.79	2,765.00
Civil Defense	175.00	72.33	175.00
<b>Health Department:</b>			
Health Dept., including			
Hospitals	5,495.00	4,995.00	5,570.00
Vital Statistics	250.00	303.50	350.00
Sewer Maintenance	400.00	395.00	400.00
Town Dump & Garbage Removal	1,875.00	1,791.04	2,000.00
<b>Highways &amp; Bridges:</b>			
Town Maintenance	42,400.00	44,274.82	42,525.00
Street Lighting	7,800.00	8,655.34	9,570.00
Town Road Aid	667.61	667.61	678.09
Libraries	5,039.00	5,382.81	5,207.00
<b>Public Welfare:</b>			
Town Poor	5,000.00	3,818.74	4,500.00
Old Age Assistance	10,000.00	9,897.66	10,000.00
<b>Patriotic Purposes:</b>			
Memorial Day	75.00	75.00	100.00

	Approp. 1953	Actual Expend. 1953	Selectmen Request 1954
<b>Recreation:</b>			
Parks & Playgrounds	1,950.00	2,026.49	2,850.00
<b>Public Service Enterprises:</b>			
Cemeteries	50.00	49.00	125.00
<b>Unclassified:</b>			
Damages & Legal Expenses	700.00	585.64	1,000.00
Advertising & Regional Assoc.	849.06	849.06	1,376.53
Employees' Retirement	1,550.00	2,208.93	2,000.00
Armory	400.00	393.90	300.00
<b>Interest:</b>			
On Temporary Loans	1,100.00	1,002.01	1,150.00
On Long Term Notes	515.00	515.00	380.00
<b>Town Construction</b>			
Town Construction	2,500.00	2,402.44	3,000.00
State Aid Construction —			
Town's Share	2,890.00	3,850.00	3,850.00
Sidewalk Construction	500.00	410.56	600.00
Sewer Construction	1,900.00	235.90	0
New Lands, Parking Lot	3,000.00	5,817.79*	0
New Equipment	4,000.00	4,358.40	3,500.00
<b>Payment of Principal of</b>			
<b>Debt:</b>			
Long Term Notes	6,750.00	6,750.00	6,750.00
Payment to Capital Reserve			
Fund	1,000.00	1,000.00	0
Deficit of Previous Years	91.06	141.06	0
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Total Expenditures	\$140,809.22	\$147,991.39	\$140,156.62

\* Includes \$1,000.00 long term note payment

# WHERE THE MONEY CAME FROM

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In the year 1953 your town officials have collected and have accounts receivable that come to the sum of \$306,451.17 which was used to pay for the operation of the town government, schools and a share to the county and Lancaster Fire Precinct. Below is listed the sources from which we received this money

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## PROPERTY TAXES

In 1953 the tax collector sent out tax bills which came to a total of \$255,848.22 or 83.5% of the money which was needed to operate the town affairs. Lancaster in 1953 had a total gross valuation of \$6,858,562.00 and a net valuation of \$6,731,848.00. From the gross is deducted \$126,768.00 which was granted as veterans' exemptions. By dividing the total amount of tax bills by the net valuation we come up with a 1953 tax rate of \$3.80 which is \$1.70 down from the rate of \$5.50 we had in 1952. This drop was brought about by our new valuations, smaller town and county budgets and larger sum received from the State for aid to the schools.

As of December 31, 1953 the tax collector had collected and remitted to the town treasurer the sum of \$299,964.04 which is 90.0% of the total property taxes due.

## POLL TAXES

The sum of \$2,778.00 had been committed to the collector for collection. As of December 31, 1953 the collector had turned in \$2,180.00. \$94.00 was abated and \$38.00 was from added names. There remain 271 polls or \$542.00 uncollected. This bill is due on presentation and all poll taxpayers should see that this is paid promptly.

## BANK STOCK

A sum of \$683.35 was received from the National Bank Stock Tax. This money comes from assessments on National Bank Stock of Citizens of Lancaster. The amounts are sent to the tax collector by the banks in which this stock is held.

## FROM THE STATE

The State of New Hampshire turned over the sum of \$14,-



095.82 to the Town of Lancaster. This sum is made up from the following listed sources:

Interest & Dividend Tax	\$8,966.01
Railroad Tax	832.72
Savings Bank Tax	818.47
Reim. State & Federal Forest Lands	225.93
Exemption of Growing Wood	1,691.38
National Forest Reserve	10.54
Old Age Recovery	861.13
Commission for Head Tax Collections	689.64

#### LOCAL SOURCES OTHER THAN TAXES

This is the second largest source of income for the Town of Lancaster and which has been growing yearly. In 1953 the town received \$21,700.69 from the following sources:

Dog Licenses	\$ 565.09
Business Licenses and Permits	217.00
Fines and Forfeits	951.20
Rent of Town Buildings	1,551.80
Interest Received on Taxes	801.64
Motor Vehicle Permits	12,839.20
Added Taxes	491.26
Sale of Town Property	1,282.48
Parking Meters	3,000.00
Cancelled Check	1.00
Excess Collections by Collector	.02

#### CREDITS

During the 1953 year the different town departments were credited with a total sum of \$11,307.09. The largest sum of \$6,467.98 was credited to the Town Maintenance account. In this sum was \$4,043.30 to cover flood damages which occurred in March and April and balance is funds received for work done by the highway department.

Town Officers' Expenses was credited with \$3,171.95. \$3,000.00 of this was carried over from the 1952 appropriation to pay for the re-assessment of the town. Town officers' Salary account was credited with \$500.00 as the Precinct share of the Town Manager's Salary. Retirement was credited with \$804.16 which was received from the Col. Town Committee for retirement payments on their employees. The balance of \$363.00 was credited among the Police, Civil Defense, Sewer Maintenance, Town Poor and Parks accounts.



# GENERAL GOVERNMENT

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In 1953 Lancaster spent \$21,895.40 for general government activities.

Here is where it was spent.

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## TOWN OFFICERS' SALARIES

Appropriated \$7,975.00

Spent \$8,491.50

Out of this appropriation eleven (11) Town Officials are paid: Selectmen (3), Clerk-Treasurer, Town Manager, Deputy Collector, Moderator, Supervisors of Check List (3), and Treasurer of the Trust Funds. To the appropriation we add \$500.00 as a credit which is the Precinct share of the Manager's salary and we see we overexpended the account by \$20.00. This was due to the large number of motor vehicles registered by the Town Clerk, her salary thereby came to a larger figure than the original estimate.

## TOWN OFFICERS' EXPENSES

Appropriated \$4,175.00

Expended \$6,757.91

The largest share, which was \$3,000.00, was the cost of re-assessing the Town. This sum was carried over from 1952 so adding this plus \$171.95 credits to the appropriation we see that we ended the year with a surplus of \$417.09. We also purchased a new calculator, which aids greatly in the computation of tax bills both in speed and accuracy. The balance was expended for office supplies, lights, phone, audit and other costs which come in running an office.

## ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATIONS

Appropriated \$150.00

Expended \$86.05

This was the cost of conducting the March Town Meeting.

## MUNICIPAL COURT

Appropriated \$500.00

Spent \$500.00

This is the salary of the Municipal Court Judge. Municipal Court took in receipts of \$1,551.04. The State received \$945.00; operating costs were \$53.84 and the Town received the balance of \$552.20.

## **TOWN BUILDINGS**

**Appropriated \$5,056.00**

**Costs \$6,059.95**

The total expenditures were the costs of operating the Town Hall. The big improvements made this year were painting the auditorium and the change over in the Town Offices. The hall now is very clean and bright and the offices are set up for better efficiency and privacy. The over-expenditure of \$1,003.94 was due to the fact that late in December we had to buy coal, the greater part of which will be used in 1954, and also the estimate for the painting was lower than the actual cost.

## **Protection of Persons and Property**

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The amount of \$13,270.20 was expended for the Protection of Persons and Property. Here is what each department spent.

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### **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**Appropriated \$8,965.00**

**Spent \$7,790.17**

This is the cost of operating the Lancaster Police Department of two full time and one part time police officer. This gives Lancaster police protection from 9:00 A. M. to 5:00 A. M. seven days per week.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**Phone 8-4402**

The police, during the year, were called on to handle 226 different cases. Of these cases 30 were brought into court and 29 convicted. These calls ran from handling accidents to handling of disturbances. The police also registered 178 bicycles. The Department wishes to compliment the State Highway office employees for their fine cooperation throughout the year.

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**Appropriated \$2,000.00**

**Expended \$2,500.00**

This is the amount the town contributes to the Lancaster Fire Precinct for operation of the fire department. See Precinct report for complete expense of the fire department operation.

**TO REPORT A FIRE**  
**Phone 8-4830**

## **INSURANCE AND BONDS**

**Appropriated \$3,016.49**

**Spent \$3,407.79**

In 1953 for the first time insurance was compiled into one account. Against this appropriation all insurance costs are charged, this includes fire insurance, public liability, burglary, workmen's compensation, auto fleet, and bonds on municipal employees who handle town funds. The insurance policies of the town are set up on a three year plan which distributes the cost over three years as equally as possible.

## **CIVIL DEFENSE**

**Appropriated \$175.00**

**Expended \$72.33**

This is the cost of operating the aircraft warning post which is now manned 24 hours per day. At this time all who have donated their time to air watches are complimented and those who have not should contact the chief air observer and donate some time.

## **BLISTER RUST**

**Appropriated \$50.00**

**Spent 0**

This is set aside in a fund which now totals \$200.00 in which to combat the pine blister rust disease. This is done by the State approximately every four years with the cost chargeable to the town.

## **HEALTH**

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**The Town in 1953 expended the sum of \$7,484.54  
for the protection of health of their citizens.  
For what was this money used?**

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Appropriated \$8,020.00

Spent \$7,484.54

In this account we have expenditures for the following health matters: Contribution to Weeks Memorial Hospital \$2,500.00 was used, the appropriation was \$3,000.00; Health Nurse Association \$2,095.00; Vital Statistics \$303.50; Sewer Maintenance \$395.00; Town Dump and Garbage Removal \$1,791.04. Following are detailed reports of the Public Health Association and Dental Clinic:

### PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

To the Citizens of Lancaster:

May I extend my thanks for the splendid cooperation that we, the Board Members of the Public Health Nursing Committee and the Public Health Nurse, have received in fulfilling our aim of better health for the town.

As chairman of this committee, it was my privilege to organize fifty volunteer workers for the Mobile Chest X-Ray Unit in July. There were 1190 Chest X-Rays taken, of which 100 were retaken.

Detailed reports of the various phases of our work are presented for your information.

Respectfully submitted,

VIOLET SMITH, Chairman

### PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING BOARD REPORT

The Public Health Nursing Board, made up of representatives from various organizations within the town, including the town manager and superintendent of schools, held eleven regular and special meetings during the year.

The Board sponsored the State Mobile X-Ray unit, and 1,000 hours of assistance were donated by the Board and Townspeople.

Respectfully submitted,

KATHERINE N. LANE, Secretary.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

#### Receipts:

Cash on District	\$ 119.65
Metropolitan Life	1.00
Baby Station	120.00
Dental	177.40
Town of Lancaster	2,095.00
School	1,825.00
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	\$ 4,338.05



Donated Time: (if paid for would cost)	
Administration	\$ 216.00
Clerical	735.00
Baby Clinic	72.00
Dental	48.00
Rent	720.00
Laundry	18.00
Telephone	66.00
Chest X-Ray	1,500.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 3,375.00

Expenditures:	
Regular Staff	\$ 3,450.00
Substitute Nurse	200.00
Nursing Supplies	4.20
Stationery	2.25
Telephone	3.01
Postage	1.82
Dues	10.00
Trucking	4.37
Office Supplies	1.95
Shelving	1.84
Bank Charges	2.19
	<hr/>
	3,681.63
Actual Cash: less Dental & Baby Station Funds	\$ 4,040.65
	3,681.63
	<hr/>
	\$ 359.02

Respectfully submitted,  
 ETHEL McCARTEN

1953

### PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING DISTRICT NURSING

Total number of individual patients	311
Total number of visits to or in behalf of these patients	1735
	<hr/>
Total number of field and office visits	2046

These visits included non-communicable patients, crippled children, communicable diseases, pre-natal, post-natal, infants, school health services, and civil defense. The services rendered were: Besides care and treatments—hypotherapy, supervisory home visits patient, and welfare visits.

# SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

## School Year, 1952-53

Doctors R. E. Webb, J. A. Ferguson, B. H. Blodgett, and Thomas D. Rock gave physicals to grades 1, 4, 8, and 11, or 218 students.

### Immunization:

No. infants and preschool and school	70
Vaccinations by private doctor	60
Patch tests	246
Chest X-Ray	33
Chest X-Ray for teachers	3
Chest X-Ray for adults	3
Hemoglobin blood test	217
(by the hospital technician)	
Urine analysis	208
P. T. R.	208

### Defects found:

Perforated ear drum	1
Defective tonsils	13
Petite Mal.	1
Gros. Mal.	1
Chest X-Ray every 6 months	1
Glands	1
Heart	2
Nose	1
Dysmenorrhea	10
Hernia	2
Flat feet	10
Skin mole	5
Sugar in urine	4

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Total defects found	52
Total corrections or improvements of same	39
Vision tests	664
Hearing tests	650
Inspections	63
Heights and weights	600
First aid	360

### Defects found:

Vision	187
Hearing	42
Skin	10
Speech	2
Teeth	209
Total	470



<b>Communicable diseases:</b>	
Chicken pox	11
Measles (German)	47
Whooping cough	8
Impetigo	5
Pediculosis	13
Mumps	184
Scabies	5
Scarlet fever	2
Ringworm (skin)	4
<b>Corrections:</b>	
Vision—corrected or under treatment	167
Hearing—corrected or under treatment	35
Skin—corrected or under treatment	10
Speech—training needed	2
Teeth—corrected or treated	200
<hr/>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>414</b>

**This school year July, 1953, to January 1, 1954**

No. students weighed and measured	750
No. students given physicals by physician	161
No. given urine analysis	172
No. given blood hemoglobin by technician	176

**Defects found by physicians:**

Asthma	2
Orthopedic	2
Dental	42
T. & A. defective	32
T. & A. needing attention soon	11
Heart	2
Rt. Hydrocele	1
Circumcision	1
Ear wax	12
Pelonidal	2
Cervical glands	38
Bronchii	1
Skin	4
Varicous veins	2
Varicocele	4
Structural and posture	1
Poor posture	3
Obesity	1

**Corrections or under treatment in these defects:**

T. & A.	7
Dental	200

Obesity	1
Orthopedic	2
Home visits to or in behalf of students	78
Survey made for the general court on State Wards and Foster Homes—Visits	19
Communicable diseases:	
Chicken pox	1
T. B.	1
Impetigo	4
Skin ringworm (skin)	2
Sore throats	2

#### DENTAL CLINIC COMMITTEE

Students examined by dental hygienist	209
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##### Defects found:

Needing extractions of deciduous teeth	29
Needing extractions of permanent teeth	9
Needing fillings for deciduous teeth	350
Needing fillings of permanent teeth	235
Number of students' teeth cleaned	114

The correction of all these defects is the responsibility of all parents. If financial assistance is needed, same will be found. This work is progressing.

Number of students corrected to date:	200
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##### Dental Clinic Receipts

Balance on checking account January 1, 1953	\$ 211.59
Collected from children Dental Hygienist	44.16
Kiwanis Club	150.00
Town of Lancaster	200.00

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\$ 605.75

##### Expenditures

May 1	Barbara Herr, Dental Hygienist	\$ 74.10
July 2	Doctor Haines	6.00
July 21	Mary Carey, tooth brushes	11.32
	Salvation Army	6.50
	Nursing committee	1.48
	Bristol Myers Company	4.00
Nov. 13	Doctor Parker	40.00
	Doctor Haines	28.00

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\$ 177.40

Balance January 1, 1954	\$ 438.35
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Respectfully submitted,

GRACE LEE

**The physical therapy program in cooperation  
with the State Board of Health**

Number of infants, pre-school and school	12
Number of sessions held in Lancaster	4
Patients from Lancaster attend Littleton and Berlin orthpedic clinics, Dr. U. G. Sanders gives physicals.	
Miss Mary Bullock, physical therapist, gives and demonstrates exercises.	

**Child Health Station**

Held the 3rd Friday of every month — 12 sessions

Number of infants attending and examined	49
Number of pre-school attending and examined	45
Number of repeated examinations	118
Total physicals given	212
Total number of Immunization Treatments	109
Total cost in money	\$ 110.00
Volunteer hours	114

Volunteer on laundry, 324 pieces

Tissue paper donated, 300 sheets

The American Legion and Auxiliary sponsor the program with the assistance of a donation from the Col. Town Fund and the State Board of Health, Vaccine and records. Chest Clinic given to Lancaster by Tuberculosis Association of New Hampshire.

Patch tests	119
Chest X-Ray	12
Cases found	1
Chest X-Ray on all contacts	20
Findings on same — normal	

**Salvation Army**

Twenty percent of the money collected in Lancaster remains in Lancaster.

**The Itemized Expenditures for 1953:**

Fuel, two families	\$17.10
Clothing, 2	7.38
Optical, 2	23.00
Dental — tooth brushes	6.50
Medicine for one	1.00
Stranded Individual — food	4.35
Hospital bed trucking	1.50
Total	\$57.83

Respectfully submitted,

MARY H. CAREY,

Nurse Director.

# HIGHWAYS AND NEW CONSTRUCTION

---

In what we refer to as "Public Works" we spent the sum of \$51,814.33 in carrying out our highway program. Here is where the money went and what was accomplished.

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## TOWN MAINTENANCE AND NEW HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION

**Appropriated \$44,900.00**

**Expended \$46,650.26**

It looks like we over expended our budget — but we did not. To this appropriation may be added \$6,567.88 which were credits received during the year. The largest part of these, \$4,043.30, was reimbursement from the State for damages done by the spring flood. The balance was made up of monies received from work done by the Highway Dept. for private citizens and refunds of the State gas tax on gas bought by the town during the year.

What did we do with all this money? Grandview Drive and upper Main St. were completed and now are class I streets; 9.1 miles of asphalt roads were resurfaced; 23 streets were marked with new street signs; 10 miles of gravel roads were regraded and graveled; \$11,000.00 was expended in fixing roads damaged by the spring flood, the biggest item here was replacing the washed out bridge on McGary Rd. We now have a larger and very strong culvert bridge as compared to the narrow wooden bridge which washed out; all 32 miles of Lancaster's streets and roads were plowed, sanded, and salted giving Lancaster some of the best winter roads in the North Country; seven miles of sidewalks were plowed and sanded; then there is the endless job of patching and countless other jobs which are necessary to keep the roads in A-1 shape; the old town barn was torn down and we built a new cold storage shed and bulk salt storage shed — the highway garage area now looks neater and more respectable.

## TOWN ROAD AID

**Appropriated \$667.61**

**Expended \$667.61**

To the town's appropriation of \$667.61 we add \$4,450.76 which was the State's contribution. This money is set up for improvement of rural roads and presently we are improving

the Garland and Gore Roads. From this fund \$4,043.30 was returned to the town for flood damage and the balance of \$1,075.07 was used to asphalt cover .8 mile of Garland Road from Garland Brook east.

### STATE AID CONSTRUCTION

**Appropriated \$3,850.00**

**Spent \$3,850.00**

This is a program to reconstruct class 4 highways in Lancaster. The streets which may come under this program are State numbered highways. The town is told the amount the State will contribute, according to the number of miles in the town's compact area, and the town must appropriate the like amount. The money is turned into the State and they supervise the work and make all payments. For the past two years we have not used any of this money and presently we have \$14,600.00 deposited with the State. The intent is to use this money to reconstruct Main Street from the Post Office to the junction of North Main Street.

### SEWER CONSTRUCTION

**Appropriated \$1,900.00**

**Used \$235.90**

The amount spent was used to reconstruct a section of main sewer at the junctions of Main and North Main streets. The amount was originally raised to reconstruct the sewer on Burnside Street but we believe we have remedied the difficulty there and there is no need for a new sewer at the present time.

### SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION

**Appropriated \$500.00**

**Spent \$410.56**

The bulk of this money was used on the walk on Hill Street. The old concrete walk was torn up and a new asphalt walk was put in.



## **NEW LANDS**

---

In 1953 the Town voted to buy the parking lot on Main Street for off street parking. The Town also voted to borrow \$3,000.00 on long term notes to help pay for this purchase. In March the town purchased the lot for \$4,750.00 of which \$3,000.00 was raised by notes and the balance taken from the parking meter fund. In 1953 one note was payed which leaves a balance of \$2,000.00 to be paid. All this is taken from the parking meter fund and does not effect the amount to be raised by taxation.

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## **NEW EQUIPMENT**

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In 1953 Lancaster appropriated \$4,000.00 and \$4,358.40 was spent on new equipment. The \$358.40 is not an over expenditure but the amount which was available in the equipment depreciation account. With this money a new 2½ ton Ford dump truck and a new snow plow wing were purchased.

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## **STREET LIGHTS**

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For the year 1953 \$7,800.00 was appropriated for street lighting and the sum of \$8,655.34 was expended. This account was over expended \$855.34 due to the fact that in drawing up our budget we underestimated the correct amount because we used figures for only eleven months. The town is now in the process of re-surveying the town's entire lighting system with the intent of getting proper light in the proper place. The biggest improvement made was in the Soldiers Park area where we relocated lights and increased the candle power of the lights which now give us proper lighting in that congested area.

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# PUBLIC LIBRARY

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The sum of \$5,039.00 was appropriated and \$5,382.81 was spent in operation of the Weeks Memorial Library. The over expenditure was due to necessary repairs which were made on the roof. Below is the report of the Board of Trustees.

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## WEEKS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

1953

The year 1953 was one spent struggling to get the necessary repairs accomplished. After the budget was presented to the Town Budget Committee, it was discovered the roof was in very poor condition. Two roofing concerns made bids on reconditioning it and the work was given to the Therrien Company of Manchester, New Hampshire. There is a 20 year guarantee on the work done.

Painting of the woodwork on the exterior of the building was done; new florescent lights were installed in the stack room and rotunda, and new globes put on the outdoor lights.

Some shelving in a store room in the basement was made by a High School student under the direction of Mr. George Jones. One new book case was added to the Reference room.

In February, the furnace was given a thorough going over and new valves were put in radiators where necessary. In September a District Library meeting was held at the Colonel Town Community House. Speakers included Miss Catharine Pratt, Assistant State Librarian, of Concord, and Mr. Ralph Riley, Extension Librarian, of Littleton.

In March, Mr. Wallace Strickland resigned, as he was leaving town. We regretted losing so valuable a member, but felt fortunate that Mr. Joseph Brown was nominated to fill the vacancy.

The circulation continues to soar, with non-fiction increasing in demand and use, each year. Many books have

been borrowed from the State Library, the Bookmobile and the Groveton Library to supplement our own collection .

Respectfully submitted,  
ELAINE F. HICKEY,  
Librarian

## JUVENILE LIBRARY REPORT 1953

Each year sees a considerable growth in the Juvenile Department of the Weeks Memorial Library. There have been 81 new borrowers registered and 285 new books purchased. The total circulation for the year was 13,314 which is 1,442 over 1952. We feel that this is very commendable.

Classroom collections have been supplied frequently to many of the grades and have thus reached a large number of children who are not regular borrowers.

Parents of pre-school and school age children are making more use of the library, which is very gratifying to the librarian and trustees.

Many summer visitors were very much interested in the mounted bird collection and many local residents have used it as a means of identifying local birds.

In July, Mr. Fred W. Baker, grandnephew of the late Dr. Bucknam of Lancaster, presented an unexploded shell found at the Battle of Gettysburg by Dr. Bucknam. This has attracted much interest from young and old as it cannot be duplicated.

A most cordial welcome is extended to all to visit the department and to see for yourselves the work which is being accomplished.

Respectfully submitted,  
ELIZABETH L. CURRIE

Reports read and approved:

GRACE BRAGG, Chairman

ETHEL McCARTEN, Secretary

JOSEPH E. BROWN, Treasurer

## PUBLIC WELFARE

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Your town expended the sum of \$13,616.40 on Public Welfare in the year 1953. Here are the facts about this expenditure.

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## OLD AGE ASSISTANCE

Appropriated \$10,000.00

Expended \$9,897.66

This program is a State aid program to provide relief to the needy who are 65 years of age or older. The program is operated by the State Welfare Dept. which performs all the work. In the total cost the Town of Lancaster pays 25% and the State pays the remaining 75%. A total of 58 needy aged Lancaster residents received aid in 1953.

## TOWN POOR

Appropriated \$5,000.00

Expended \$3,818.74

This is the amount expended on direct relief to the town poor who are unable to qualify for aid under a State or County plan. This program is administered by the Town Manager. We were able to reduce the expenditures \$3,000.00 from the previous year by thoroughly processing all requests for relief before aid was granted. A total of 18 cases were handled, of this total 7 were families which totaled 38 individuals and the other 11 were individual cases.

## RECREATION

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The amount of \$2,026.49 was used for recreation purposes in Lancaster in the year 1953. Where did this money go?

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Appropriation \$1,950.00

Spent \$2,036.49

The sum of \$800.00 was used to provide free band concerts on Wednesday evenings in the summer.

The town swimming pool received \$450.00 to aid the maintenance of the pool. The pool is operated by the Col. Town Committee which should be complimented on maintaining an excellent pool and one which we all may be very proud of having in our town.

The balance of \$776.49 was used for park maintenance which is done by the highway Dept.

It looks as if we over expended this account but to the appropriation we add \$240.00 of credits which leaves us with a balance of \$163.51 at the end of the year.

# CEMETERIES

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The sum of \$49.00 was expended from the appropriation of \$50.00 during the year for cemetery care. This total was used on the care of No. 10 cemetery on Martin Meadow Pond Road. The report of the Summer Street Cemetery follows:

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## SUMMER STREET CEMETERY REPORT

Following is the Financial Report of the Summer Street Cemetery Association for 1953:

### Receipts

Cash on hand, Jan. 1 1953	\$ 380.14
Trust Funds	5,500.00
Sale of Lots	314.50
Burials	398.00
Care of Lots	357.50
Check No. 530 voided	3.00
	<hr/>
Total Receipts	\$ 6,953.14

### Expenditures

Wages	\$ 5,423.05
Internal Revenue	319.10
Flowers and plants	173.60
Repairs	310.70
Equipment	162.23
Improvements	148.06
Coos County Democrat (Committee's Report)	35.14
Water Rent	16.06
Cray Oil Company	27.78
Edward Whiting (Refund on Lot)	12.00
New Check Book	3.98
	<hr/>
Total Expenditures	\$ 6,631.64
Balance on Check Book Dec. 31 1953	\$ 321.50

Respectfully submitted,

SHIRLEY M. GARDNER,

Supt.



# **PATRIOTIC PURPOSES**

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Town of Lancaster appropriated and spent \$75.00 for Memorial Day Services performed by the Veterans Organizations of Lancaster.

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## **INTEREST**

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It cost the Town of Lancaster \$1,517.01 in 1953 for interest on short term loans and long term notes. Below is the breakdown of the expenditures for each.

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### **TEMPORARY LOANS**

Appropriated \$1,100.00

Spent \$1,002.01

The amount spent here on money the town must borrow on short term notes. This money is needed to operate the town until our tax bills are sent out and we then start to receive money. The sooner the tax bills are paid the less we must borrow and thereby cutting down the expense of borrowing. Prompt payment means a saving in your pocket.

### **LONG TERM NOTES**

Appropriated \$515.00

Expended \$515.00

This is the sum we must pay on our long term notes obligations. On the next page is a schedule of the notes on which this interest is paid.

## **PAYMENT ON PRINCIPAL OF DEBT**

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Lancaster expended \$6,891.00 on payment of long term notes and the previous year's deficit. On following page is a table of notes due.

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2%		2%		2%		2.5%	
Equipment Notes		Sewer Const. Notes		Loader Notes		Parking Lot Notes*	
Amount of Issue	\$10,000.00	\$18,500.00	\$6,000.00	\$3,000.00			
Date of Issue	June 20 1951	Oct. 1 1951	April 1, 1952	April 1, 1953			
Principal Payable	December 20	October 1	October 1	December 1			
Interest Payable	June 20 & Dec. 20	April 1 & Oct. 1	April 1 & Oct. 1	June 1 & Dec. 1			
Payable at	Siwooganock Sav. Bk	Lancaster Natl. Bk	Lancaster Natl. Bank	Siwooganock Sav. Bk.			

Maturities							
Year	Ending	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest
Dec. 31, 1954		\$2,000.00	\$80.00	\$2,750.00	\$260.00	2,000.00	50.00
Dec. 31, 1955		2,000.00	40.00	2,750.00	205.00	2,000.00	25.00
Dec. 31, 1956				2,750.00	150.00		
Dec. 31, 1957				2,750.00	95.00		
Dec. 31, 1958				2,750.00	40.00		

\*The parking lot notes are paid from parking meter revenues and do not effect the amount to be raised by taxation.



## DEFICIT OF PRIOR YEARS

Appropriated \$91.06

Used \$141.06

As of December 31, 1952 Lancaster's current deficit was \$141.06. As of December 31, 1953 Lancaster has no deficit, in fact we are going into the 1954 year with a current surplus of \$9,262.43.

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## UNCLASSIFIED

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In this group are the accounts for Damage & Legal Fees, Advertising, Employees' Retirement, and Armory. The sum of \$4,037.53 was expended in the above accounts. Here is what was spent by each.

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### DAMAGES AND LEGAL EXPENSE

Appropriated \$700.00

Expended \$585.64

In this account we made payments for dog officers, dog damage, legal council for the town and Lancaster's share for hiring of an expert on the Pipe Line tax abatement case.

### ADVERTISING

Appropriated \$849.06

Spent \$849.06

A total of \$400.00 was used to pay for the operation of Lancaster's information booth located at the intersection of Park and Main Streets. This booth is opened during the summer months to accommodate tourists in finding eating places, cabins and sites of interest to be seen in this area. The balance of \$449.06 was Lancaster's contribution to the White Mountains Region Association.

### EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT

Appropriation \$1,550.00

Expended \$2,208.93

This is the town's share of the employees retirement system which is administered by the State. Each employee contributes a certain percent of his salary, which is determined by the employee's age upon entering the system and the amount of the wages he receives. The town's share is set by the State. A credit of \$804.16 is added to the ap-

propriation so that leaves a surplus of \$145.23. The credit of \$804.16 was received from the Col. Town Committee for their share of the retirement of their employees.

### **ARMORY**

**Appropriated \$400.00**

**Expended \$393.00**

The Town of Lancaster pays \$300.00 rent for the Armory building which is used by the National Guard and the balance of the expenditure is town's share of the light bill.

## **SCHOOLS**

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The town collected and turned over \$134,466.44 to school system for operation of the school system. Turn to the school report for complete report on the schools' operation.

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## **COUNTY TAX**

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In 1953 Lancaster's share of operating the Coos county government was \$17,718.26 which is \$3,183.76 less than the amount Lancaster paid in 1952. You may pick up a copy of the County Report in the Town Office which gives a detailed report of the county operations.

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## **RESERVE FUNDS**

As of December 31, 1953, Lancaster has \$19-927.67 to be used in 1954 and future years. What are these funds?

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### **BLISTER RUST**

As mentioned in the Blister Rust acocunt, Lancaster now has \$200.00 set aside which will be used for blister rust control.

## **EQUIPMENT DEPRECIATION**

There is a sum of \$58.24 in this fund for equipment replacement. In 1953 the town spent \$449.00 from this fund which was used with the sum raised for equipment purchases to buy a new truck and snow plow wing.

## **PARKING METER FUND**

As of December 31, 1953, the Town has a balance of \$296.92 in this fund. This money is received from the parking meters which are in use from April 1st to Nov. 30th of each year. Last year we collected \$4,274.97 from the meters. Of this total \$3,000.00 was used as estimated revenue to reduce the amount to be raised by taxation and the balance of the expenditure was used to purchase the parking lot.

## **STATE AID TO HIGHWAYS**

The town now has \$14,600.00 set aside with the State Treasurer in this account. The intent is to use this money in the near future on reconstructing Main St. The town contributed 1-2 this share while the State contributed a like amount. It is hoped in the future the town may receive federal funds which would match both the town's share and the State's.

## **SEWER CONSTRUCTION**

At the end of 1953 year the town had a balance of \$1,664.10 in the sewer construction account. This will be carried over into the year 1954 for sewer construction.

## **DAMAGES AND LEGAL EXPENSE**

We ended the year with a balance of \$114.36 in this account. This will also be carried into 1954. It is expected the Pipe Line Case will be settled sometime in 1954 and a large payment for legal fees is expected.

## **OVERLAY**

In 1953 the town had \$3,387.90 available in this account, and we ended the year with a balance of \$1,994.05, which is being held over for use in 1954. To the overlay account all tax abatements granted by the Selectmen are charged. This past year the town cleaned up many old poll taxes which were uncollectable and a few stock-in-trade and property abatements.

## **CAPITAL RESERVE FUND**

In the March Town Meeting the citizens of Lancaster voted to start a capital reserve fund for future use on new construction, new equipment or new lands. In 1953 the sum

of \$1,000.00 was set aside in this fund. This money has been turned over to the Trustees of Trust Funds, as prescribed by law, and they in turn have placed it in a savings account for future use.

## SUMMARY

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### What is the condition of our town.

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The board of Selectmen and the Town Manager feel that the town is in sound financial condition and that the town's property is in excellent condition. We base our judgment on the following facts:

1. The town's long term indebtedness is only \$19,000.00 which is 9.4% of the total allowed by law.
2. The town has no current budget deficit but as of December 31, 1953, we have a current budget surplus of \$9,262.43.
3. The town has started a Capital Reserve fund for future capital improvements.
4. The amount raised by taxation to pay for the town's operation has decreased in 1953 from the previous year.
5. The town has just been completely re-valued, and the town now has an equitable assessment of taxable property.
6. The town's equipment, streets and buildings are in good shape and a diligent maintenance schedule is keeping it that way.
7. The town has a group of conscientious employees who are giving their best to make these results possible.

# TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

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This office collected \$12,839.20 for motor vehicle permits during the year which represented an increase of \$1,519.00 over the previous year. Dog licenses issued totalled \$616.49—an increase of \$205.34 over the previous year.

Recorded by the Town Clerk were the following vital statistics:

Births	221
Deaths	60
Marriages	35

These statistics show an increase in the number of births and marriage licenses issued and a decrease in the number of deaths. Detailed information concerning all births, deaths and marriages is available in the Town Clerk's office.

During the year \$102.50 was paid out for bounties on hedgehogs and bears. The town will be reimbursed by the State for this expenditure.

Your Town Clerk's office is the place to come to find a Town Ordinance or any public town record, to obtain a copy of a vital statistic record, a marriage or dog license, a motor vehicle registration, and to search for or file an attachment, conditional sale, lien or chattel mortgage.



# REPORT OF TRUST FUNDS

For the Year Ending December 31, 1953

Cash on hand Dec. 31, 1952	\$ 2,672.78
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## Receipts

Income from Investments	5,929.07
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\$ 8,601.85

## Expenditures

Shirley M. Gardner, Superintendent	\$ 5,500.00
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Rev. E. M. Total — 1953	303.77
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Town of Lancaster - Care of Cross Park	125.00
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Treasurer - Weeks Memorial Library	527.41
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Treasurer - Lancaster Union	
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School District	85.66
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Treasurer - Emmons S. Smith Fund	709.77
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Mrs. Glenn S. Sheridan - Historical Fund	36.06
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\$ 7,287.67

Cash on hand Dec. 31, 1953	1,314.18
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\$ 8,601.85

## Assets

### Deposits:

Cheshire County Savings Bank,	
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Keene, N. H.	\$ 2,000.00
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Siwooganock Guaranty Savings Bank,	
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Lancaster, N. H.	24,950.10
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Lancaster Nat. Bank, Lancaster, N. H.	1,314.18
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\$ 28,264.28

### Bonds:

10,000 U. S. Savings Bonds Ser. "G"	
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2½ % due 9-1-63	\$10,000.00
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3,000 U. S. Treasury Bonds	
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2½ % due 12-15-68	3,000.00
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5,000 U. S. Treasury Bonds	
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2½ % due 6-15-69	5,000.00
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1,000 U. S. Treasury Bonds	
----------------------------	--

2½ % due 12-15-69	1,000.00
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5,500 U. S. Treasury Bonds	
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2½ % due 3-15-70	5,500.00
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4,000 U. S. Treasury Bonds	
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2½ % due 3-15-71	4,000.00
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3,500 U. S. Treasury Bonds

2½% due 6-15-72

3,500.00

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\$ 32,000.00

**Stocks:**

475 shs Boston Fund, Inc. \$ 9,903.75

10 shs Central Maine Power Co.

3.50% Pfd 957.50

50 shs Chase Nat. Bank, New York 1,932.06

62 shs Continental Illinois Nat. Bank

& Trust Co., Chicago 5,407.94

380 shs Eaton & Howard Balanced Fund 10,355.00

860 shs Fidelity Fund, Inc. 12,183.52

129 shs First Nat. Bank, Boston 6,815.19

50 shs Guaranty Trust Co., New York 2,961.32

100 shs Home Insurance Co. 4,287.50

7 shs Lancaster National Bank,

Lancaster, N. H. 875.00

210 shs Bank of the Manhattan Co.,

New York 6,070.00

179 shs Manufacturers Trust Co., N. Y. 9,902.89

715 shs Nation Wide Securities Co., Inc. 10,406.83

27 shs National City Bank, New York 1,143.60

600 shs National Investors Corp. 7,584.00

35 shs Public Service Co. of N. H.

3.35% Pfd. 3,290.00

6 shs Siwooganock Guaranty Savings

Bank, Lancaster, N. H. 600.00

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\$ 94,676.10

Total Assets

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\$154,940.38

**Liabilities**

Cemetery Trust, Principal \$ 56,080.52

Cemetery Trust, Unexpended Income 8,810.88

Helen Wilder Cross Dennison Trust, Principal 2,631.57

Helen Wilder Cross Dennison Trust,

Unexpended Income 1,041.11

George M. Stevens Trust, Principal 53,745.21

George M. Stevens Trust, Unexpended Income 2,941.54

Library Trust, Principal 10,735.35

School Trust, Principal 2,153.95

Emmons S. Smith Trust, Principal 14,800.25

Historical Trust, Principal 1,000.00

Capital Reserve Fund, Principal 1,000.00

Total Liabilities

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\$154,940.38

## TRUST FUND RECORD

### Cemetery Trust

Principal, Dec. 31, 1952	\$ 54,480.52
Unexpended Income, Dec. 31, 1952	9,410.13
	<hr/> \$ 63,890.65

#### Receipts:

New Trust Funds	\$ 1,600.00
Income from Investments	2,204.52
	<hr/> 3,804.52
	<hr/> \$ 67,695.17

#### Expenditures:

Shirley M. Gardner, Superintendent	\$ 2,500.00
Rev. E. M. Total, for 1953	303.77
	<hr/> \$ 2,803.77
	<hr/> \$ 64,891.40

Principal, Dec. 31, 1953	\$ 56,080.52
Unexpended Income, Dec. 31, 1953	8,810.88
	<hr/> \$ 64,891.40

### Helen Wilder Cross Dennison Trust

Principal, Dec. 31, 1952	\$ 2,631.57
Unexpended Income, Dec. 31, 1952	1,038.77
	<hr/> \$ 3,670.34

#### Receipts:

Income from Investments	127.34
	<hr/> \$ 3,797.68

#### Expenditures:

Town of Lancaster — Care of Cross Park	125.00
	<hr/> \$ 3,672.68

Principal, Dec. 31, 1953	\$ 2,631.57
Unexpended Income, Dec. 31, 1953	1,041.11
	<hr/> \$ 3,672.68

### George M. Stevens Trust

Principal, Dec. 31, 1952	\$ 53,745.21
Unexpended Income, Dec. 31, 1952	3,703.23
	<hr/> \$ 57,448.44

#### Receipts:

Income from Investments	2,238.31
	<hr/> \$ 59,686.75

<b>Expenditures:</b>	
Shirley M. Gardner, Superintendent	3,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 56,686.75
Principal, Dec. 31, 1953	\$ 53,745.21
Unexpended Income, Dec. 31, 1953	2,941.54
	<hr/>
	\$ 56,686.75

#### Library Trust

Luella Joslin Fund	\$ 1,000.00
Laura Johnson Fund	2,864.73
Jacob Benton Fund	250.62
George M. Stevens Fund	5,000.00
Annette Jeffers Fund	120.00
Clara M. Kimball Fund	500.00
Minerva S. Congdon Fund	1,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 10,735.35

Principal, Dec. 31, 1952	\$ 10,735.35
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#### **Receipts:**

Income from Investments	527.41
	<hr/>
	\$ 11,262.76

#### **Expenditures:**

Treasurer, Weeks Memorial Library	527.41
	<hr/>
	\$ 10,735.35
Principal, Dec. 31, 1953	\$ 10,735.35

#### School Trust

Chapin C. Brooks Fund	\$ 2,153.95
Principal, Dec. 31, 1952	\$ 2,153.95
<b>Receipts:</b>	
Income from Investments	85.66
	<hr/>
	\$ 2,239.61

#### **Expenditures:**

Treasurer, Lancaster Union School District	85.66
	<hr/>
	\$ 2,153.95
Principal, Dec. 31, 1953	\$ 2,153.95

#### Emmons S. Smith Trust

Principal, Dec. 31, 1952	\$ 14,800.25
<b>Receipts:</b>	
Income from Investments	709.77
	<hr/>
	\$ 15,510.02

<b>Expenditures:</b>	
Treasurer, Emmons S. Smith Fund	709.77
	<hr/>
	\$ 14,800.25
Principal, Dec. 31, 1953	\$ 14,800.25
<b>Historical Trust</b>	
K. B. Fletcher Fund	\$ 1,000.00
Principal, Dec. 31, 1952	\$ 1,000.00
<b>Receipts:</b>	
Income from Investments	36.06
	<hr/>
	\$1,036.06
<b>Expenditures:</b>	
Mrs. Glenn S. Sheridan	36.06
	<hr/>
	\$ 1,000.00
Principal, Dec. 31, 1953	\$ 1,000.00
<b>Capital Reserve Fund</b>	
Principal, Dec. 31, 1952	\$ 0
<b>Receipts:</b>	
From Town of Lancaster - Nov. 24, 1953	\$ 1,000.00
<b>Expenditures</b>	
	0
	<hr/>
	\$ 1,000.00
Principal, Dec. 31, 1953	\$ 1,000.00

Respectfully submitted,  
JAMES L. DOW,  
DAN O'BRIEN  
R. W. McCAIG,  
Trustees of Trust Funds

Town of Lancaster, N. H.



# COL. F. L. TOWN TRUST FUND

For the Year Ending December 31, 1953

Investments: Dec. 31, 1952	\$454,238.97
Income from Investments	20,725.60
	<hr/>
	\$474,964.57
Paid to F. L. Town Spending Com.	\$ 20,569.70
Administration Expense	155.90
Investments: Dec. 31, 1953	454,238.97
	<hr/>
	\$474,964.57
Original Trust Fund — 1926	\$335,022.50
Profits	134,814.17
	<hr/>
	\$469,836.67
Losses	15,597.70
	<hr/>
Trust Fund — Dec. 31, 1953	\$454,238.97

Respectfully submitted,  
D. A. SULLIVAN,  
Treasurer.

## INVESTMENTS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1953

### Deposits:

Dartmouth Savings Bank, Hanover, N. H.	\$ 5,000.00
Siwooganock Guaranty Savings Bank, Lancaster, N. H.	6,816.21
	<hr/>
	\$ 11,816.21

### Bonds:

5,000 U. S. Savings Bonds Ser. "G"	
2½ % due 10-1-54	\$ 5,000.00
23,000 U. S. Treasury Bonds	
2½ % due 12-15-68	23,000.00
36,000 U. S. Treasury Bonds	
2½ % due 6-15-69	36,000.00
8,000 U. S. Treasury Bonds	
2½ % due 3-15-71	8,000.00
29,000 U. S. Treasury Bonds	
3¼ % due 6-15-83	29,000.00
10,000 Canada, Dom. of —	
Int. 3% due 12-1-60	9,250.00

10,000	Canada, Dom. of —	
	Int. 3% due 10-1-63	9,637.50
		<hr/> 119,887.50

**Stocks:**

686 shs	Boston Fund, Inc.	\$ 16,889.32	
100 shs	Central Maine Power Co.		
	3.50% Pfd	9,575.00	
50 shs	Central Vermont Public Service		
	4.15% Pfd	5,000.00	
200 shs	Consolidated Edison Co. of		
	N. Y. \$5. Pfd	19,762.50	
50 shs	Consumers Power Co. \$4.50 Pfd	4,331.25	
450 shs	Continental Illinois Nat. Bank		
	& Trust Co.	23,250.00	
670 shs	Eaton & Howard Balanced		
	Fund	16,971.10	
375 shs	Fidelity-Philadelphia Trust Co.	21,813.00	
324 shs	First Nat. Bank of Boston	16,633.67	
800 shs	Great American Insurance Co.	16,125.00	
250 shs	Guaranty Trust Co., New York	13,350.00	
126 shs	Hanover Bank, New York	12,348.07	
2409 shs	Incorporated Investors	16,229.63	
238 shs	Manufacturers Trust Co., N. Y.	10,333.83	
1430 shs	Massachusetts Investors Growth		
	Stock Fund	15,887.30	
1300 shs	Mass. Investors Trust	17,589.00	
365 shs	National City Bank, N. Y.	16,976.37	
400 shs	N. H. Fire Insurance Co.	17,075.00	
588 shs	Peoples First Nat. Bank &		
	Trust Co., Pittsburgh	15,600.95	
150 shs	Public Service Co. of N. H.		
	3.35% Pfd	14,400.00	
697 shs	George Putnam Fund of Boston	12,692.37	
115 shs	Scranton Spring Brook Water		
	Service 4:10% Pfd.	9,701.90	
		<hr/> 322,535.26	
	Grand Total		<hr/> \$454,238.97

# COL. TOWN SPENDING COMMITTEE

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## SECRETARY'S REPORT

To: Dr. J. A. Ferguson, Chairman  
Colonel Town Spending Committee

The Colonel Town Spending Committee is comprised of the following members — Dr. J. A. Ferguson, Mrs. Margaret Guilmette, Mrs. Priscilla Evans, Mr. Carroll Stoughton, Mr. George Hunter, Mr. Clinton White, Mr. Arthur Drake, Mr. Charles Bennett and Mrs. Florence Amadon.

Mr. Elmer Bennett was not a candidate for re-election this year. He had served most faithfully and conscientiously as a member of the committee.

Dr. J. A. Ferguson and Mrs. Florence Q. Amadon were re-elected at the town meeting and Charles T. Bennett was the new member elected.

The following officers were re-elected for the year: Dr. J. A. Ferguson, Chairman; Mrs. Margaret Guilmette, Treasurer; and Mrs. Florence Amadon, Secretary.

The Chairman appointed the following committees:

**House** — Mrs. Margaret Guilmette, chairman, Mr. Carroll Stoughton, Mr. Charles Bennett.

**Field** — Mr. George Hunter, chairman, Mr. Clinton White, Mr. Arthur Drake.

**Camp** — Mrs. Florence Amadon, chairman, Mrs. Priscilla Evans, Dr. J. A. Ferguson.

**Scholarship** — Mr. Carroll Stoughton, chairman, Mrs. Margaret Guilmette, Mr. Clinton White.

Our appropriations are listed in the Treasurer's report.

Several refunds were made to organizations using the hall for charitable purposes, namely: B. P. W., given to Cancer Fund, \$15; American Legion, given to Child Health Center, \$60. March of Dimes, \$15; Churchman's Club, \$5; Tabernacle Society, \$5.

Mr. Stoughton stated that 103 students have borrowed from the Scholarship Fund during the years that he has served on that committee. The payments have been very satisfactory with most students re-paying as soon as convenient for them. The committee feels that the payments have been especially good due to the efforts of Mr. Stoughton.

As in the past flowers were placed on the Colonel Town lot on Memorial Day, during the summer months and a winter wreath this fall.

The committee is very grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Snell, Supt. and Matron of the Community House, and to Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hartford, caretakers of the Community Camp, for the fine services rendered in their respective positions — also for the splendid co-operation and interest of the townspeople and children who helped us to a great extent in carrying out the wishes of Colonel Town.

Respectfully submitted,  
 FLORENCE Q. AMADON, Secretary,  
 Colonel Town Spending Committee

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1953

Receipts	
Balance on hand, Dec. 31, 1952	\$ 5,848.49
Col. Town Investment Committee	20,569.70
House	598.00
Less: Refunds	105.00
	493.00
Comumnity Camp—cabins, grills, etc.	231.30
Swimming Pool	2,564.00
Refund from Outing Club	150.00
	\$ 29,856.49
Total Receipts	

Expenditures	
<b>Appropriations:</b>	
Equipment for Recreation Program	\$ 49.62
Salary of Recreation Leader, including withholding	510.00
Scholarship, J. Trainor	200.00
Scholarship, G. Colby	100.00
Baseball appropriation	454.10
Weeks Memorial Library, Juvenile Dept.	600.00
Mt. View Orchestra and advertising	85.00
Lane Flower Shop—flowers for lot at cemetery	83.50
Lancaster Kiwanis Club, skating rink	800.00
Lancaster Kiwanis Club, playground	160.00
Lancaster Child Health Station	100.00
Weeks Memorial Hospital Auxiliary	400.00
Girl Scouts of Lancaster	75.00
Lancaster High School, graduation prizes	240.00
	\$ 3,857.22
Total Appropriations	

<b>House:</b>		
Salaries, including withholding and pension	\$ 6,799.42	
Telephone and light	823.58	
Fuel	1,349.06	
Water rent	92.80	
Ads and Signs	31.75	
Repairs	40.40	
New Pump for Boiler Room	83.73	
Table and Pans for Kitchen	22.89	
Painting interior of House	1,970.00	
Lumber	32.17	
Basketball Nets	7.16	
Supplies—including soaps, waxes, germicide, bowling supplies, gym finish, mops, etc.	471.48	
<hr/>		
Total Expenses of House		11,724.44
<b>General Expenses:</b>		
Town of Lancaster, Pension	520.40	
Administration Expense	113.98	
Subscription to Globe	12.00	
Flowers sent to ill members	9.00	
Insurance: this covers the entire Col. Town Property	1,069.95	
Western Union, timing of clock	38.88	
Tax on Bowling Alleys	80.00	
<hr/>		
Total		1,844.21
<b>Field:</b>		
Salaries, including withholding	\$581.00	
Repairs to mower	1.95	
Tennis Tape	31.60	
Mowing	32.00	
Gas	23.47	
<hr/>		
Total Cost of Field		670.02
<b>Community Camp:</b>		
Salary of Caretaker \$1125.00		
Less: Refund of overpayment \$25	\$1,100.00	
Telephone, \$37.93; Lights \$75.48	113.41	
Clearing Brook	130.00	
Stove and trucking	34.00	
Signs	10.00	
Wood	48.00	
Lumber	18.60	



Moving Piano	10.00
Register	3.75
Roofing	4.35
Supplies	16.66

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Total Cost of Camp	1,488.77
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### Swimming Pool:

Receipts as noted before include:

Pool	* \$1,684.00
Donation	30.00
Red Cross	100.00
Rotary Club	300.00
Town of Lancaster	450.00
	<hr/>
	\$2,564.00

\* Includes \$96 sale of chairs

### Expenditures:

#### Equipment & Construction:

Pad and matting	\$ 10.62
Parks, cement work	623.90
Chairs	60.00
Beaton, plumbing	857.10
Thompson	21.82
Nadeau Bros.	70.60
Lesnick	71.55
Frank Smith	12.43
Lumber	13.01
Toys for pool	2.93
	<hr/>
Total	\$1,743.96

### Operating Expense:

Salaries, including	
withholding tax	\$1,468.58
Lights & electricity	223.25
Insurance	50.25
Decalite	62.50
Painting Pool (This low price	
is due to rebate	
received last year.)	426.00
Emblems	25.81
Cards & Tickets	28.15
Canvas	60.55
Water testing and	
safety devices	26.76

Bleach & Chlorine	37.80	
Total	2,409.65	
Total Cost of Operating Pool	\$4,153.61	\$4,153.61
Receipts	2,564.00	
Cost to Spending Committee for operation of pool	\$1,589.61	
Total Expenditures for Year		\$23,738.27
Balance on check book		6,114.34
Charge from bank		3.88
Total		\$29,856.49

The balance may seem high, but work is to be done on the bridge at Community Camp and could not be done until spring. Other improvements in Col. Town Property are to be taken care of this year.

Respectfully submitted,  
MARGARET P. GUILMETTE  
Treasurer.

### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

#### Receipts

Cash on hand, Dec. 31, 1952	\$ 72.10
House and Hall	257.00
Bowling and Pool	614.14
Telephone	34.14
Coca Cola and amount on hand	217.71
	\$1,195.09

#### Expenditures

Pin Boys	\$ 246.30
Express and trucking	20.38
Supplies	30.00
Repairs	27.50
Coca Cola	205.75
Col. Town Spending Committee	598.00
Cash on hand, Dec. 31, 1953	67.16
	\$1,195.09

A list of groups and organizations enjoying the use of Community House and Field during the year would include the following:

Business and Professional Women's Club, Tabernacle Society, Kiwanis Club, Girl Scouts, Noyes Free Lecture Fund, Unity Club, American Red Cross, 4-H Club, Bloodmobile, Arts and Crafts, County Extension Service, Chamber of Commerce, Outing Club, Churchmen's Club, Minstrel Rehearsals, Y.M.C.A., American Legion, DeMolay, County Forestry Meetings, Bennett's Tractor and Implement Sales, American Cancer Society, North Country Boy Scout Leaders, Teachers' Association, North Country Fair, Nurses' Association, Pilot Realty Corp., Civil Defense, Coos County Insurance Agents, Blue Cross and Blue Shield, Legion Auxiliary, Coos County Deanery, District Library Association, Piano Recitals, Baseball Meetings, Orchestra Rehearsals, Committee Meetings, parties, dances, and various school activities.

The parlor, dining room and hallways at the Community House were repainted during the summer. The main hall was completely refinished in colors which we believe improve the lighting effect considerably. Plans are underway to make further improvements in the parlor and dining room in the near future.

The Community Field, even with its extensive use, seems to be in good condition. We plan another application of fertilizer to the land next summer. It is also hoped that the tennis courts may be surrounded with heavy chain link fencing.

The summer recreational programs, including the children's playground, youth athletic activities and the swimming pool, were under capable supervision and enjoyed by many.

The Swimming Pool was repainted again this year and was completely covered with heavy canvas for additional protection during the off season. Since mud had been getting into the pool, through cracks presumably caused by sagging pipe, it was necessary to renew all inlet and vacuum lines on three sides. The fourth side was found to be functioning properly so a gate valve was installed, making it possible to cut this side off if it becomes necessary. This line should also be renewed in the future. All piping replaced thus far has been braced and welded to the steel pool itself, to prevent any future sagging.

Attendance figures and other statistics for the pool will be found in the report of the swimming pool supervisor.

Our appreciation is extended to the people of Lancaster, and to the various organizations and individuals, for their cooperation and many acts of kindness shown us during the year.

We would like to thank our staff of able assistants for work well performed in the House, on the Field and at the Swimming Pool.

The cooperation of the American Red Cross and the Y.M.C.A. at the Swimming Pool was, of course, vital to its success.

Any accomplishments made during the year have been due to the interest, counsel, guidance and excellent advice of the members of the Col. Town Spending Committee.

Respectfully submitted,  
ROBERT J. SNELL.

#### COL. TOWN SCHOLARSHIP LOAN FUND — 1953

Balance Jan. 1, 1953 Siwooganock Savings Bank	\$ 821.02
Interest to Jan. 1, 1954	26.75
	<hr/>
	\$ 847.77
Payments on loans granted	470.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 1,317.77
Loans granted 1953 (2)	300.00
	<hr/>
Balance Jan 1, 1954 Siwooganock Savings Bank	\$ 1,017.77

CARROLL STOUGHTON, Chairman  
Scholarship Committee.

#### CAMP COMMITTEE REPORT

To: Dr. J. A. Ferguson, Chairman  
Colonel Town Spending Committee

The Colonel Town Community Camp was opened on May 15th by the caretakers, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hartford.

Considerable damage was done by the brook overflowing its banks last spring. A gully was made down through the road which was five feet deep in several places. This was filled in by the town highway employees as they were working in that locality. The committee is very grateful to Mr. Fils and to the town for this assistance.

It was necessary to have a steam shovel used to clear the brook to follow its natural course after the flood.

A temporary bridge was used this past summer leading to the camps. Plans are made for a new bridge this spring.

The croquet ground was flooded and one end had to be graded and re-seeded.

A second-hand stove was purchased for Camp No. 1.

Estimates have been made on work to be done this coming season. Very little money was spent at the Community Camp last year as it was necessary to use additional money for painting and improvements at the Community House and the Town Swimming Pool. We plan to make numerous camp improvements in 1954.

The committee is grateful to Roy Marshall, who very kindly donated a piano for the camp, also to the Kiwanis Club for a much needed refrigerator. We now have refrigerators in both camps.

Following an outing of the Groveton Lions Club a donation of \$5 was sent to the Community Camp with a note commending Mr. Hartford for his courteousness.

The camps were used by hunters over Armistice weekend.

Six thousand one hundred and fifteen persons registered during the season. This was about 30 less than last year but was undoubtedly due to weather conditions.

The camp was closed on October 15th following a busy season.

The committee members wish to express their appreciation and thanks to the caretakers, Mr. and Mrs. Hartford, for their interest and co-operation.

Respectfully submitted,

FLORENCE Q. AMADON, Chairman,  
PRISCILLA EVANS,  
DR. J. A. FERGUSON,  
Camp Committee.

## SWIMMING POOL

### Report to the Col. Town Income Spending Committee For the 1953 Season

When the season opened on June 24, 1953 the pool had been recently completely reconditioned which made the operation much more successful than in previous years.

This being the third year as Supervisor of the Lancaster Swimming Pool and the second year for the Col. Town Income Spending Committee it is a pleasure to report another accident free season and one to be proud of. This year we operated 10 full weeks, nine hours a day. As in previous seasons three hours in the morning were devoted exclusively to swimming lessons and the remaining part of the day was given over to general swimming.





The Lancaster Swimming Pool (above), at Community Field, is a 35 by 85 foot welded steel pool with diatomaceous earth filtering and recirculation equipment and a chlorinator. The State Board of Health gives it a high rating as there are about 80 square feet of filtering surface handling about 158 gallons a minute or 9480 gallons an hour, filtering and recirculating all the water in the pool every eight hours. It was in 1944 that plans were begun to provide a safe and sanitary swimming place for Lancaster children. Annual Rotary carnivals and other contributions gradually built up a fund. Although lacking enough cash to complete the Rotary sponsored project, Chairman Edward K. Whitcomb and his swimming pool committee solicited building materials, volunteer labor, gravel and trucks, and it was possible to partially complete the pool and bathhouse and open them for a short period at the end of the summer in 1949. Help given by the Kiwanians and financial support from the Col. Town Fund were outstanding. More work was done towards completing the pool before it opened for the 1950 season and it has been open each summer since then. Starting with the season of 1952, the Col. Town Spending Committee has operated the pool.

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The weather was generally good as we were closed only one full day all season. We are happy to announce that the pool was enjoyed by more out-of-town and out-of-state swimmers than ever before and we heard nothing but praise for the supervision, cleanliness and friendliness of those in charge.

In July and again in late August there were two evenings where parents and interested friends made up a large number of spectators. On July 29th, M. Weymouth Judkins and Mr. Ted Feild held a progress night at which time the entire Y.M.C.A. Swimming Program was demonstrated by the Lancaster Swimming Pool Classes. Two hundred and fifteen people were on hand to compare the progress of their children over the preceding year. In August the Lancaster Swimmers were hosts to the Woodsville team and 274 spectators saw the Lancaster group win in every event.

It is gratifying to note that since I have been connected with the Pool our instruction has been noticeably gaining momentum as there are very few non-swimmers in the grammar and high school group. The class instruction which is offered at the Pool is exceedingly well attended and the enthusiasm is most gratifying.

I would like to recommend that a new system of checking personal belongings be set up which will reduce the losses which are common to municipal swimming pools.

The following are our statistics:

Attendance	Afternoon	Night
June	1238	190
July	4241	760
August	2591	532
September	148	31
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Approx. Attendance 9731	8218	1513

#### Awards

Y.M.C.A. Awards — Minnow 59, Fish 32, Flying Fish 21, Shark 1.

Red Cross Awards — Beginners 12, Intermediate 8, Swimmer 6, Advanced Swimmer 3.

I wish to thank Mr. Judkins, Miss Ann White, Mr. Ted Feild and Mrs. Jones, as well as the entire Col. Town Committee and Mr. Robert J. Snell, for their fine cooperation in making this summer educational, instructive and pleasant for the children and adults of the town of Lancaster.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE E. JONES,  
Pool Supervisor.

# REPORT OF AUDITORS

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Following are excerpts from the annual audit of town accounts made by the State Tax Commission, Division of Municipal accounting. Copies of the complete report are on file in the office of the Town Clerk and in the Town Manager's office.

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## CERTIFICATE OF AUDIT

This is to certify that we have examined and audited the accounts and records of the Town of Lancaster for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1953, and found them to be in good order. In our opinion the Exhibits submitted herewith reflect the true financial condition of the Town as of December 31, 1953, together with the results of operations for the fiscal year ended on that date.

Respectfully submitted,  
HAROLD G. FOWLER,  
Director

Division of Municipal Accounting  
State Tax Commission

C. David Sullivan, Auditor  
Hugh J. Cassidy, Accountant

## SCOPE OF AUDIT

Included in the examination and audits were the accounts and records of the Board of Selectmen, Treasurer, Tax Collector, Town Clerk, Trustees of Trust Funds, Col. F. L. Town Fund, Weeks Memorial Library, Overseer of the Poor, Public Health Nurse, Dental Clinic, and Summer Street Cemetery.

## AUDIT PROCEDURE

The accounts and records of all town officials charged with the custody, receipt and disbursement of public funds were examined and audited. Vouchers and cancelled checks were compared with supporting invoices and payrolls as well as entries in the books of record. Receipts were checked by source insofar as possible and totals of receipts and expenditures verified. Book balances were verified by comparison with reconciled bank balances made from statements obtain-



ed from depository banks. Verification of uncollected taxes was made by mailing notices to delinquent taxpayers as indicated by the Collector's records.

### GENERAL COMMENTS

#### Current Surplus:

It is noted that the current financial condition of the Town changed during 1953 from a current deficit of \$141.06 to a current surplus of \$9,262.43, as shown by the following statement:

	Dec. 31, 1952	Dec. 31, 1953
Total Current Liabilities	\$59,727.97	\$55,858.64
Total Assets	59,586.91	65,121.07
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Current Deficit or (Surplus)	\$ 141.06	(\$9,262.43)

#### Conclusion:

The accounts of all town officials which we examined were found in good condition and the accounting and financial procedure conformed to the prescribed methods and procedure.

The provisions of Section 31, Chapter 211, of the Laws of 1939, require that this report or a summary of its essential features shall be published in the next annual Town report.

We extend our thanks to the officials of the Town of Lancaster for their assistance during the course of the audit.

Yours very truly,  
HAROLD G. FOWLER,  
Director

Division of Municipal Accounting  
State Tax Commission

C. David Sullivan, Auditor  
Hugh J. Cassidy, Accountant

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**OF THE DISTRICT OFFICERS**

**LANCASTER SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**LANCASTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1953**



## **DISTRICT OFFICERS**

### **MODERATOR**

William Crouch

### **CLERK**

Cecile Costine

### **SCHOOL BOARD**

John Gormley	Term Expires 1954
Herbert Mayberry	Term Expires 1954
Willard Bean	Term Expires 1955
Ralph Shute	Term Expires 1955
Walter Hinkley	Term Expires 1956
Clifford Gray	Term Expires 1956

### **TREASURER**

Christina Bennett

### **TRUANT OFFICER AND CENSUS**

Alpha Kingsley

### **SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

Harold A. Truell

## **REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

To the Citizens of the Town of Lancaster:

There are three significant items on which the board wishes to comment in this brief report.

First, effective July 1, 1953, the resignation of C. Newton Heath as Superintendent of Supervisory Union No. 31 was accepted, and Harold A. Truell was hired in that capacity.

Second, it is expected that there will be an operating deficit of about \$7000 for the current fiscal year ending June 30, 1954. This is due to unforeseen expenses, over-estimated income, and erroneous budgeting. Your board wishes to point out that this deficit is in no way the fault of Mr. Truell.

Third, the budget proposed for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1954 is larger by some \$20,000 than that adopted for the current year. For several years your schools have operated on an insufficient budget. The folly of such a course

should be apparent to all at this time. In the face of steadily rising costs of maintenance, materials, transportation, and instruction, and with our ever increasing number of students it is impossible to operate the schools without a substantially increased budget.

Respectfully submitted,  
 RALPH D. SHUTE, Chairman  
 WILLARD F. BEAN,  
 CLIFFORD R. GRAY,  
 JOHN E. GORMLEY,  
 HERBERT V. MAYBERRY,  
 WALTER D. HINKLEY,  
 Lancaster School Board.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

To the School Board of the Town of Lancaster:

My first annual report as Superintendent of Schools in the Town of Lancaster is submitted herewith.

**Supervisory Union No. 31:**

The Supervisory Union No. 31 is composed of the towns of Lancaster, Whitefield, and Carroll. The duties of the Union as a whole are to select the Superintendent of Schools, special teachers, supervisors and the Union Secretary. The school nurse is engaged separately by the individual towns. The Superintendent's salary for the school year 1952-1953 was proportioned as follows. Lancaster 37.7 percent, Whitefield 18.9 percent, Carroll 6.7 percent and the State share 36.7 percent. The salary of the secretary and office expenses of the Union were proportioned for the school year 1952-1953 as follows: Lancaster 59.5 percent, Whitefield 30 percent, and Carroll 10.5 percent. These percentages are based on two factors having equal weight as follows: (1) Average daily membership of district, and (2) district valuations (adjusted). The following chart might be of interest to show how these percentages were derived:

### DISTRICT VALUATIONS (ADJUSTED)

Carroll	\$ 1,529,829.00
Lancaster Town	1,956,036.00
Lancaster Union	3,998,413.00
Whitefield	3,319,334.00
<hr/>	
Total valuation of Supervisory Union No. 31	\$10,803,612.00

## AVERAGE DAILY MEMBERSHIP OF DISTRICT

District	Elem.	High	Total
Carroll	52.8	14.7	67.5
Lancaster Town	172.6	49.2	221.8
Lancaster Union	309.8	122.1	431.9
Whitefield	225.7	74.7	300.4
			1021.6

## DISTRICT PERCENTAGES OF COSTS

District	Valuation Percent	A.D.M. Percent	Average Percent
Carroll	14	7	10.5
Lancaster	55	64	59.5
Whitefield	31	29	30.0

Section 47 of Chapter 135 of the Revised Laws has been amended by the 1951 General Court to read, in part, as follows. "The basis for the apportionment shall be one-half on the average membership for the previous school year and one-half on the last adjusted valuation of the district."

The percentages as shown above will vary slightly each school year due to changes in the valuation of the districts and the average daily membership of pupils in the district.

At the present time the Union School Board employs a full time elementary supervisor whose duty it is to aid and direct those teachers teaching grades 1 through 6. This position has been in existence for approximately five years. Miss Blanche Witherell, Elementary Supervisor, is a great help to these teachers. Special programs relative to the progress of the pupils, both individually and as a whole, are carried on under her guidance. We recommend that her report be read and digested as we feel that this field of education should be understood by all interested parents and citizens.

### Changes of School Personnel:

Miss Charlotte Taylor, Miss Grace Enman, Principal of the Elementary Division, Miss Eloise Simpson, Miss Sally Buzzell, Mrs. Frances Ethridge, Mr. Anthony Guarino, and Mr. Otis Martin resigned their positions with the Lancaster School System in June 1953 to accept other teaching positions. Mrs. Margaret Horne resigned her position as teacher of the Cabot School November 16, 1953 due to illness.

Mrs. Isabel Thompson, a graduate of Plymouth Teachers College, was employed to teach kindergarten during the

school year 1953-1954; Mrs. Martha Wade, graduate of Plymouth Teachers College, was employed to teach Grade 2; Mrs. Ellen Moody, graduate of Wheelock College, was employed to teach Grade 5; Mrs. Marion Knight, graduate of Plymouth Teachers College, was employed to teach Grade 2; Mrs. Betty Fowlie, graduate of The University of Maine, was employed to teach English and allied subjects in the senior high school; Mr. David Blair, graduate of Dartmouth College, was employed to teach social studies, English and coach in the senior high school; Mr. David Wade, graduate of Plymouth Teachers College, returned from the service and is teaching mathematics and allied subjects in the senior high school; Mr. John O'Brien, graduate of St. Anselm's College, was employed to teach social studies and allied subjects, and Mr. David Moreland, graduate of Boston University, was employed to teach industrial arts and mathematics in grades 7 through 12. Mrs. Gwendolyn Parker, graduate of MacDonald Teachers College, was employed to replace Mrs. Margaret Horne last November, 1953. Mr. Ronald Gainer was employed as a school custodian to replace Mr. Donald Corum, who resigned the position.

#### **Repairs:**

Since July 1, 1953, the following repairs have been completed:

1. Due to increased enrollment it was necessary for the large study hall located on the second floor of the high school building to be divided into two classrooms. The partition was built by Mr. Jason Gessner. The painting of the two rooms was done by Mr. Floyd Stewart.

2. Early last year the hot air system on the north side of the high school building ceased to function, causing the building to be extremely cold. It became necessary for us to purchase a three horse-power electric motor as the old second-hand motor was gone.

3. The heating system in the high school building has been examined quite thoroughly for improving its efficiency. Several changes and corrections have been made. We feel very certain that these improvements will not only improve the heating efficiency of the building but will also help to cut the cost of heating.

4. Other necessary repairs have been made as the need for them has arisen.

#### **Veterans Administration Program:**

Since 1946 there has been carried on in the Lancaster Schools a Veterans Administration Agricultural program



for the benefit of the veterans of World War II. There have been many young men who have taken advantage of this program. Mr. Dwight Stiles, Milan, New Hampshire, has been the instructor and Mrs. George Jones has been acting as secretary of the program. At the time of its inauguration we understand that it was advised not to include it in the regular school budget. Therefore, this part of the overall program has never appeared in the budget. Over the past years there has accumulated a deficit of \$268.80 as follows: Mr. Dwight Stiles, salary as instructor, \$239.33; Mrs. George Jones, salary as secretary, \$29.27. This amount has been included in the proposed 1954-1955 school board budget in order that the deficit might be cleared up immediately.

Your Superintendent of Schools has had several office conferences with representatives from the Veterans Administration office and a representative from the State Board of Education, for the purpose of obtaining a clearer understanding of the overall program. These same representatives have met with your school board and have discussed with it the past history, present problems, and future possibilities for the continuing of this program from January 18, 1954 to July 17, 1954, as there seem to be enough veterans interested to warrant its continuation. At this time it does not seem as though there will be enough veterans desiring this program to warrant continuing it beyond July 17, 1954.

### **Enrollment:**

From a study of previous reports as presented by your former Superintendent of Schools, it would appear that the enrollment in the Lancaster High School will continue to increase for several years to come. We have not been in your midst long enough to present to you intelligently a continuation of this study. However, you may rest assured that your present Superintendent of Schools will study the future school enrollment and present a forecast in his next report. It might be of interest to the townspeople to note that this year only one tuition pupil from Lunenburg entered the Freshman class at the Lancaster High School against three in September, 1952, seven September, 1951 and sixteen September, 1950. This shows that there has been a trend for the pupils of Lunenburg to attend other high schools outside the town of Lancaster. At the present time we are not in a position to state the reason for this obvious trend. However, we do know that it is not due to the tuition rate as at the present time many of the Lunenburg pupils are attending Concord High School, Concord Vermont, where the tuition is \$225.00 per pupil per



year, against the 1953-1954 Lancaster High School tuition rate of \$200.00 per pupil per year.

Last year it became necessary to employ an extra teacher in the elementary school system. This teacher was employed to teach in Grade 2 as it became necessary to have two full second grades for the first time in the history of the school. It will be necessary for us to employ another extra teacher to teach a third grade for the school year 1954-1955 as there will be two full third grades. May we present the following table to show the anticipated classroom enrollment during the period from September 1953, to September 1957.

**ANTICIPATED CLASSROOM NEEDS FOR GRADES 1-6**

Grade	K	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	Other	Total
September									
1953	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	3	12
1954	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	3	13
1955	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	3	14
1956	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	14
1957	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	15

The above chart shows that there will be a need for the increasing of the teacher staff in the elementary school during the coming five years. It appears that the classrooms necessary to house these children in the elementary grades 1 through 6 are available at this time in the new elementary school building. We are unable to say whether there will be sufficient classroom space to house the future anticipated high school enrollment. Opportunities offered the pupil, along with recitation classes will be major factors in answering this question.

**Insurance:**

This year your School Board in conjunction with the Whitefield and Carroll School Boards were able to offer to all pupils of these towns the opportunity of participating in a Special School Child Accident Policy for \$1.25 per pupil per year. Up to this time there has been no coverage for accidents which happened at the school during school sessions. The expense of an accident was borne directly by the parent. It is thought that this Accident Insurance Policy will be a great help in meeting expenses which occasionally occur.

This policy became effective November 12, 1953 and will continue until November 11, 1954. Four hundred and sixty-seven pupils and teachers took out this insurance divided as follows: elementary pupils 338; high school pupils 129. This

shows that approximately 60 percent of the entire student body enrolled in this project.

#### **New State Legislation:**

The following new legislation which has recently taken effect may be of interest to the citizens of the town of Lancaster:

"1. **School Pupils.** Amended section I of Chapter 137 of the Revised Laws, as amended by Chapter 92, Laws of 1949, by striking out said section and inserting in place thereof the following: 1. **Duty of Pupil.** Every child between six and sixteen years of age shall attend the public school within the district or a public school outside the district to which he is assigned or an approved private school during all the time the public schools are in session, unless he has been excused from attending on the ground that his physical or mental condition is such as to prevent his attendance or to make it undesirable. Provided that any child more than fourteen years old who has completed the studies prescribed for the elementary schools shall not be required to attend high school if the school district where he resides does not maintain a high school. Provided further, if a child reaches his sixth birthday after September thirtieth he will not be required to attend school under the provisions of this act until the following school year." This act became effective June 10, 1953.

New Hampshire Revised Laws, Chapter 134, as amended by the Laws of 1951, Chapter 147.

"43-a Whenever any handicapped child, of whatever age, shall attend, with the approval of the State Board of Education, any public or private school, situated within or outside of this state, which offers special instruction for the training or education of handicapped children and which has been approved for such training by the State Board of Education, the school district where such handicapped child resides shall be liable for the tuition of said child in the same manner and amount as specified in Revised Laws, Chapter 138, Section 26 and Chapter 137, Section 3-a."

As noted in the bill above, any handicapped child who is unable to attend school but is able to receive education must be educated at the expense of the town. Even though there was no money appropriated in the 1952-1953 or the 1953-1954 school budgets for the education of these handicapped children, it was necessary for the town to spend \$559.68 during the school year 1952-1953 as follows: High school pupils, \$384.24; elementary pupils \$175.44. The amount

that it will cost for the school year 1953-1954 cannot be determined until the final payments have been made in June 1954. It will be noted that the School Board has made provision in its school budget of \$800.00 for the training of physically handicapped children during the school year 1954-1955. At the present time there are three pupils who come under this classification living in Lancaster.

**Rural Schools:**

During this present school year our rural schools have been visited and inspected by a representative of the New Hampshire State Department of Health. His report to your Superintendent of Schools, stipulates that something must be done in these schools relating to toilet facilities, heating and lighting. Five hundred dollars has been set aside in the proposed 1954-1955 school budget to help correct some of these defects.

**Hot Lunch Program:**

The Lancaster Elementary and High Schools continue to participate in the Hot Lunch Program for the benefit of the pupils attending these schools. During the school year 1952-1953 the cost was twenty-five cents per lunch per pupil, in grades 1 through 6, and thirty cents per lunch per pupil, in grades 7 through 12. The School Lunch Program functions on a revolving fund and has been self-supporting to date. The only way we are able to give the pupils such excellent food for so little cost is due to the number of lunches served, available State Aid and the efficiency with which the head dietician and her very able assistants plan and execute the daily menu. We do wish to let parents know that all the pupils attending the Lancaster Schools are privileged to purchase hot lunches during those days when school is in session. These lunches must meet standards established by the State Board of Education through Office of School Lunches Program. Our kitchen is subject to inspection at any time by official state representatives. Not only is the kitchen checked but a careful study of the menus is made to see that properly balanced luncheons are served. The following information may be of interest in showing the sizeable program that was carried on during the school year 1952-1953:

Lunches served .....	30,025
Free Lunches (included in above) .....	913
Milk (in addition to that served with lunch) .....	10,171
United States Department of Agriculture Claims ..	\$1,984.19
Student payment .....	\$7,404.45



Adult payment .....	\$ 725.60
Salaries (adult) .....	1,961.30
Salaries (student) .....	\$ 970.95
Food and Supplies (Government) .....	\$1,650.10

We wish to thank Mr. Joseph Shifman for his interest in the Lancaster school in giving to the vocational training department lumber for its use. This lumber when used by the pupils for making projects is free of charge. Pupils pay for only those materials that are a cost to the town.

We wish to express our appreciation to Mr. Alpha Kingsley and Mr. Ronald Gainor, school custodians, for their interest in having the schools an asset to the town of Lancaster as displayed through their labors.

We wish to take this opportunity to express to Miss Blanche Witherell, Elementary Supervisor, Mr. Carroll Stoughton, High School Principal, and all members of the Lancaster teaching staff, our sincere appreciation for the splendid work and cooperation which they have displayed during the brief time we have been with them.

Our appreciation also goes to Mrs. Mary Carey, school nurse, Dr. Benjamin H. Blodgett, Dr. David M. Cleasby, Dr. James A. Ferguson and Dr. Thomas S. Rock, school physicians. Through the Health Department we are given the best physical care that a school can give. We urge parents to contact the school nurse whenever they feel that she may be of help to them.

Your School Board has worked diligently to give those pupils attending the Lancaster School the best in education that is possible. This is a credit to the members of your School Board, who have given unceasingly of their time. May we say that we have enjoyed immensely, working with its members.

The schools are yours. Parents and friends are invited to visit the classrooms as well as the buildings at any time. Your teachers are interested in doing excellent work, especially when they know that it is appreciated by the parents. Lancaster pupils are the center of the school program. It is desired that parents visit the schools frequently and enjoy their hospitality.

The many courtesies extended have been greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

HAROLD A. TRUELL

Superintendent of Schools.

# REPORT FOR THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Mr. Harold A. Truell, Superintendent of Schools  
Lancaster, New Hampshire

Following is my report for the Elementary Schools of Lancaster:

## Registration:

Total registration this year is slightly higher than last year and has increased since the September count. There are, at present, 351 children in the Town school and 54 in the three combined Rurals, making a total of 405 pupils.

Attendance for the first four months of this year is 93.5%. This figure includes the two Kindergarten groups whose attendance record is normally below that of other grades. Fifty-four children were registered in Kindergarten in September. Forty-nine of them are still on our rolls. It is estimated that approximately 65 children will be of Kindergarten age by September 1954.

## Personnel:

Several changes have been made in our supervisory and instructional staff. Although we regret the loss of Mr. C. Newton Heath, Superintendent of Schools; Miss Grace Enman, Principal and Fourth grade teacher; Mrs. Frances Ethridge, Kindergarten; and Mrs. Margaret Horne, Mt. Cabot teacher; we welcome to our staff our new Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Harold A. Truell; Mrs. Isabel Thompson, Kindergarten; Mrs. Martha Wade, Grade 2; Mrs. Marion Knight, Grade 2; Mrs. Ellen Moody, Grade 5; and Mrs. Gwendolyn Parker, Mt. Cabot. A total of seventeen teachers in the Elementary department includes Mrs. Ruth Wentworth, Supervisor of Music; three Rural teachers and thirteen teachers in the Town school.

## Curriculum:

Reading, which is the focal point of all learning, is given the most important place in each teacher's daily program of work. Reading instruction has been intensified and a carry-over of reading consciousness permeates every classroom situation. A Social Reading hour has been introduced to provide a wide variety of interests plus sheer enjoyment in reading achievement. We sincerely appreciate Mr. Truell's wise counsel and helpful suggestions in this venture.

Arithmetic is next in importance. Our textbooks are uniform throughout the grades, thus providing continuous



progression in instruction and classwork. In every teaching activity we recognize the individual and strive to create within each one the desire to achieve success. The fifth and sixth grades have new Language books. We hope to be able to provide books of the same series for the lower grades next year. Much-needed Music books were purchased for all grades this year.

Our Social Studies unit is now complete in Lancaster Town school and in the fifth and sixth grades in the Rural schools. We would like to complete these sets in the lower grades of the Rural schools very shortly.

There are other areas which need our attention:

1. Library books for classroom libraries
2. Additions to our Film Library plus hangings for one room so films can be used
3. Books for use in our Social Reading program

#### **Classroom Activities and School Programs:**

Supplementary to the basic subject materials, each class carries on special projects. These planned units are used to tie together curricular and extra-curricular activities, making use of Reading, Writing, Language, Art, Science, Discussion, Research and Excursions.

Two Assembly programs have been presented this year: (1) A Thanksgiving Play, at which time the children brought food parcels for Thanksgiving baskets. Eighteen families—eighty-five individuals were provided for in this way through Mrs. Carey's cooperation. (2) A delightful Christmas pageant under the direction of our Music supervisor, Mrs. Ruth Wentworth.

#### **Teachers' Workshops:**

Our meetings, scheduled weekly, are designed to clarify Educational practices, discuss new problems and procedures, and set up desirable and workable objectives. In spite of continually increasing demands on the teacher's time the loyalty and cooperation evidenced are most commendable.

#### **Parent Conferences:**

The Parent Conference, which we feel is the closest and most effective link between home and school, provides an opportunity for mutual understanding of the educational goals of our modern society. It gives us, as teachers, the privilege of knowing our children through the parents, and it permits parents and teachers to share in the greatest objective of all time: Training the Youth of our Nation.

Mr. Truell's talk to the Parent-Teacher Association on

December 9th helped to illustrate some of our teaching techniques and to demonstrate the importance of the Reading program in the primary grades.

### **Conclusion:**

My sincere appreciation is extended to all who have shared in our total school picture: to Mr. Truell who has given us his loyal support; to the Board of Education who have made the program possible; to Mrs. Carey, Mrs. Wentworth and the classroom teachers without whose conscientious and persistent efforts our school could not function; to the Cafeteria and Custodial staff and to all others who play a part in the efficient functioning of this business of Education.

Respectfully submitted,  
BLANCHE M. WITHERELL,

## **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

Mr. Harold A. Truell, Superintendent of Schools

Dear Mr. Truell:

I herewith submit my annual report as principal of Lancaster High School.

Out of fifty-seven pupils entering the freshman class in September, 1949, thirty-five graduated in June, 1953. In addition to these were two who entered the class after the freshman year, making a total graduating class of thirty-seven. This, incidentally, was the smallest class to graduate since 1946. Of those who did not continue on with the original class, eight dropped out of school and fourteen transferred to other schools.

Of those graduating, seven entered college, two nurses' training schools, three technical or special training schools, and one business school. Of those not continuing their formal education or training, six are employed in industry, five in hotel or restaurant work, three in office work, two in stores, two in trucking, and one in a garage. Two boys have entered the service and one is unemployed. One girl was married before graduating and two have been married since then.

The total numbered registered in grades seven through twelve for the year 1952-1953 was 345. Of this number, ninety-seven were in grades seven and eight and 248 in grades nine through twelve.

During the year, ten out of the 248 transferred to other schools and fourteen left school. Of the 211 undergraduates completing the year, 194 returned to school in the fall of 1953. Of those not returning, five left school and twelve transferred to other schools. Included in the twelve were three boys, one from Lancaster and two from Jefferson, who are taking the Auto-Mechanics Course in Berlin High School. Since the beginning of the year one other boy from Lancaster has also transferred to Berlin in order to take that course.

The attendance record for the year was 94.6% and the average number of tardiness per pupil was 2.9. Nine pupils were neither absent or tardy.

Following are tables with reference to the total registration in this year's classes:

Table I (By residence)

District	Grades						Total
	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Lancaster	68	51	44	39	43	44	289
Jefferson			6	17	11	7	41
Gilman, Vt.			2	3	4	3	12
Lunenburg, Vt.			1	1	7	2	11
Guildhall, Vt.			1				1
Milan						1	1
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	68	51	54	60	65	57	355
Total Grades 7 and 8—119    Grades 9 to 12—236    Total 355							

Table II By Classes)

Class	Boys	Girls	Total
Seniors	30	27	57
Juniors	35	30	65
Sophomores	27	33	60
Freshman	23	31	54
Eighth Grade	30	21	51
Seventh Grade	30	38	68
	—	—	—
	175	180	355

Table III (By Subjects Grades 9-12)

ENGLISH			
English 9	54	COMMERCE	
English 10	60	General Business	50
English 11	65	Economic Geography	32
English 12	57	Bookkeeping	22
		Consumer Education	24
SOCIAL STUDIES			
Civics	54	Typing I	56
World History	23	Typing II	22
U. S. History	65	Stenography I	18
Problems of Democracy	56	Stenography II	8
		Office Practice	5
LANGUAGES			
Latin I	15	HOME ECONOMICS	
Latin II	15	Foods and Nutrition	18
French II	26	Family	16
SCIENCE			
General Science	30	SHOP	
Biology	44	Trades & Industries I	15
Physics	9	(Practical Mechanics)	
Chemistry	22	Trades & Industries II	12
		(Cabinet Making)	
MATHEMATICS			
General Mathematics	41	Industrial Arts	14
Algebra I	46	Mechanical Drawing	6
Geometry	20		
Adv. Algebra & Trig.	20		

This year's registration of 355 for grades seven through twelve is ten more than the number registered last year. The increase is due to an exceptionally large seventh grade—sixty-eight as compared to fifty-one last year. The expected increase in this year's total registration for grades nine through twelve did not materialize because of a small freshman class and a large number of transfers and drop-out from the other classes. In fact, the registration for grades nine through twelve is twelve less than last year. One of the reasons for the small freshman class was the decrease in the number of pupils from Jefferson, Lunenburg, and Gilman. Usually there are from twenty to twenty-five freshman pupils from these towns, but this year there were only nine.



With the exception of classes in physical education which were discontinued, the program for this year is practically the same as last. It was necessary to have two divisions in both grades seven and eight this year instead of two single divisions plus a combination division as in the past. In Table III it will be noted that only Foods and Nutrition and the Family are listed under Home Economics. This is due to the fact that when the schedule was made out only three freshman had selected Clothing and Textiles. Rather than set up a class for so small a number, it was decided to let these pupils take Foods and Nutrition this year with the opportunity of taking Clothing next year when, no doubt, both courses will be taught.

Since many engineering schools now start freshman students with analytic geometry and calculus in place of college algebra and trigonometry and the College of Technology at the University is contemplating such a change, it would seem advisable to change our high school program in mathematics in order to better meet the needs of those pupils preparing for engineering careers. At present we are teaching algebra and general mathematics in the freshman year, geometry in the junior year, and advanced algebra and trigonometry in the senior year. A suggested change would be to have geometry in the sophomore year, algebra II in the junior year, and solid geometry and trigonometry in the senior year.

In order to do this with our present teaching staff it might be advisable to drop general science as a freshman subject. As it is now, general science is taught in both the seventh and eighth grades and in high school, biology, physics and chemistry are offered.

Another contemplated change in our program is to have French I and French II which are now taught in the sophomore and junior years, taught in the junior and senior years. This change would be to the advantage of those pupils who continue French in college, in that it would eliminate the lapse of time between their high school and college French. It would also improve the program for pupils taking the academic or college preparatory course for as it is now, with French taken the sophomore and junior years, there is a somewhat limited choice of subjects for this group in their senior year.

In considering changes in the program of studies it would also seem advisable to make a thorough study of our high school shop and home economics courses relatives to the



question of whether or not we should continue on a federally-aided program in all such courses or only in part|

Among the needs for improving conditions in the high school building are new lights and window shades for some of the rooms, additional seats for the auditorium, a door leading directly from the science classroom to the physics supply closet, and the removal of the partition between the science classroom and laboratory. Both AC and DC outlets are needed in the laboratory and science classroom.

Some of the desks in the classrooms need replacing, but rather than putting a few news desks in a number of rooms, it would seem more advisable to put all new desks in a single room and to use the good desks from that room to replace desks in other rooms.

Materials and supplies needed for instructional and administrative purposes are reference books for library and classroom use, tests and records for use in pupil guidance, standard achievement tests, and visual aid materials. We now have visual aid equipment but lack the funds for instructional materials which are needed to make full use of the equipment.

Through the efforts of Mr. Clinton White, Editor of The Coos County Democrat, and Mr. Calvin Grass, head of the science department, a very successful science fair was held at the Colonel Town Community House last April. Interest in the fair, sponsored by The Coos County Democrat and the Lancaster High School, far surpassed all expectations and instead of the forty to fifty exhibits hoped for, there were one hundred and twelve exhibits from twelve schools with twenty-three exhibits by pupils from the Lancaster High School. There were four science fields—Chemistry, Physics, Biology, and General Science in which exhibits might be made and the winners in the various fields were invited to compete at the State Fair at Durham. A Lancaster High School student placed second in the physics section at both the Lancaster and State Fairs. Arrangements are now being made for the second annual Science Fair to be held at the Community House March 26-27, 1954.

Extra-curricula activities in the fields of music, dramatics and sports and the publication of the year-book have been carried on as usual. For those interested in drawing, an art club, which meets once a week under the supervision of Mr. David Blair has been organized.

After many years as a very successful coach of the girls' basketball teams Mr. George Jones has retired from

coaching. He has not, however, given up all connections with sports for he is now faculty manager of all sports. Mr. John O'Brien, teacher of English in the seventh and eighth grades, has taken over as coach of the girls' team.

In closing, I wish to commend the teachers and to express my appreciation to you, the school board, parents, and pupils for their support given me in carrying out the policies of the school.

Respectfully submitted,  
CARROLL STOUGHTON,  
Principal.

## **MUSIC DEPARTMENT**

### **VOCAL MUSIC**

Mr. Harold A. Truell, Superintendent of Schools

Dear Mr. Truell:

I hereby submit my report for the Vocal Music.

Approximately one hundred signed up for Glee Club in the senior high school. This number, of course, fluctuates as the year progresses. Their attendance at the practices is consistent so their interest must be good. The club is divided into three smaller groups this year. The groups are chosen to correspond with the study halls. Some members are able to attend all three groups—each group meets once a week. The club will be represented at the New Hampshire Concert Festival at Conway, New Hampshire, in April. We hope to have a combined concert in the Spring with the orchestra. Participation in the different events at the High School Graduation time will also enter into our program.

The Junior High vocal group numbers about sixty. This is made elective as it is in the high school so as to obtain best results. The group is well balanced and is doing very well considering it meets only once a week. Music for this group is lacking, but we hope next year there will be an ample supply.

The highlight in the elementary school was a complete new set of music books. They were welcomed with much enthusiasm, and the interest hasn't diminished along through the year. It is a complete series, including new material on folk and community songs. These books are much appreciated by all of us. The upper three grades gave a very interesting Christmas program, from material in these books.

A tableaux was given by the lower grades. The rural school music program was similar to the above outline.

It is with pleasure that I submit this report to you.

Respectfully yours,

RUTH C. WENTWORTH,  
Vocal Music Supervisor

## **INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC FOR 1953-1954**

**To the Superintendent of Schools and Members of the School Board:**

Once again I am glad to submit my report on the instrumental program in the Lancaster Schools.

This year our program has followed very closely the pattern of the past several years. Three full days each week have been devoted to the instrumental program. As has been the case since the adoption of the three days per week plan, all of the instrumental classes have been able to work on a much better schedule, because it has been possible to properly grade all of the classes. Students of the same degree of advancement can be placed in the same class, and thus the more advanced students are not working with those of less experience.

Thirty-seven students reported for the senior orchestra in the fall of 1953. As is always the case, graduation takes some of our very best instrumental students. We have come to expect this, but we always find that capable replacements are available to fill the places of the players we lose. This year our orchestra is well balanced and is doing very good work.

The junior orchestra has twenty-five members. This year the junior group is having a full hour rehearsal each week, in school time. This is a much better arrangement for this group than we have ever had before, and much more is being accomplished. At present it seems almost certain that some members of the junior group will be able to play with the senior orchestra before the end of the school year.

The band has been somewhat less active this year, and did not get under way until later than usual, but was on hand for the close of the basket-ball season. The band has a membership of about twenty-five, and is quite well balanced. It may be well to mention that our orchestral program has definite priority over the band. It is our firm belief that an orchestral program gives our music students a much more

worthwhile musical experience than a band program.

A large group of beginners started their instrumental work last fall. Many of these youngsters are showing a great deal of promise, and will be very much of an asset to our instrumental program in the not too distant future.

As usual, our school will be well represented at the All-State Concert Festival which is to be held at Conway on April 8-9, 1954.

The music department greatly appreciated the fine cooperation of Mr. Stoughton in arranging a schedule that enables us to carry on our work with the least possible conflict with the academic program. An early morning activity period enables us to do all of our work during school time, except for one senior orchestra rehearsal, and two small classes.

I am happy to report a very successful and interesting year for our instrumental music department during 1953-1954.

Respectfully submitted,  
GARDNER WENTWORTH,  
Director

## ANNUAL REPORT OF DISTRICT TREASURER

### Summary

Cash on hand June 30. 1952	\$ 0.00
Received from Selectmen, Current appropriation	135,323.15
Balance of Previous appropriation (District Consolidation)	1,271.21
Income from Trust Funds	83.36
Received from State Treasurer (State Aid)	10,481.85
Received from State Treasurer - Federal Funds	3,788.00
Received from Tuitions	15,007.75
Received from all other sources	871.60
	<hr/>
Total amount available for fiscal year	\$166,826.92
Less School Orders Paid	164,816.12
	<hr/>
Cash on hand June 30, 1953	\$ 2,010.80

CHRISTINA D. BENNETT,  
School Treasurer.



# **AUDIT REPORT**

## **DIVISION OF MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTING STATE TAX COMMISSION**

Concord, New Hampshire  
August 7, 1953

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### **CERTIFICATE OF AUDIT**

This is to certify that we have examined and audited the accounts and records of the Lancaster Union School District for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1953, and found them to be in good order. In our opinion, the Exhibits presented herewith reflect the true financial condition of the School District as of June 30, 1953, and the results of operations for the period under revenue.

Respectfully submitted,

**HAROLD G. FOWLER,**  
**Director**  
**Division of Municipal Accounting**  
**State Tax Commission**

**C. David Sullivan, Auditor**  
**Edgar O. Pesquera, Accountant**



LANCASTER UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEETS Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 1952 and 1953			Exhibit A	
		June 30, 1952	June 30, 1953	
Assets				
Cash on hand: General Fund Account				
Accounts Due District:				
From Town School District	\$	28.22		
Contractor's Share of Building Plaque		40.55		
		<u>68.77</u>		
Total Assets		\$ 68.77		\$ 2,010.80
Net Debt		229,461.72		210,787.45
Total Assets & Net Debt		<u>\$229,530.49</u>		<u>\$212,798.25</u>
Liabilities				
Accounts Payable:				
Teachers' Salaries	\$	12,879.73	\$	13,662.45
Withholding Taxes		2,576.20		1,796.20
All Other		8,074.56		3,339.60
		<u>23,530.49</u>		<u>18,798.25</u>
Bonds Outstanding		206,000.00		194,000.00
Total Liabilities		<u>\$229,530.49</u>		<u>\$212,798.25</u>

## BUDGET FOR 1954 - 1955

	Expended 1952-53	Estimated Budget 1953-54	Proposed Budget 1954-55
<b>Administration</b>			
Salaries, Dist. Officers	\$ 667.77	\$ 675.00	\$ 575.00
Supt.'s Salary, Local Share	2728.75*	2811.38	2156.25
Tax--Statewide Supervision	1358.00	1390.00	1398.00
Salaries--Other Admin.			
Personnel	485.03	1076.72	977.00
Supplies & Expenses	1127.69	1136.00	2705.00
Elementary Supervisor	2677.50	2677.50	2778.00
<b>Instruction</b>			
Teachers' Salaries--High	38091.05	42182.00	36318.60
Teachers' Salaries--Elem.	47842.94	53394.00	67050.00
Principal's Salary--High	5000.00	5200.00	5300.00
Books & Instructional			
Aid--High	669.57	1463.96	1000.00
Books & Instructional			
Aid--Elem.	880.28	1085.70	1500.00
Scholars' Supplies--High	2684.07	2787.79	2500.00
Scholars' Supplies--Elem.	2522.45	3086.11	3000.00
Supplies & Other Aids--High	300.24	403.00	400.00
Supplies & Other Aids--Elem.	311.91	335.00	325.00
<b>Operation of School Plant</b>			
Salaries of Janitors--High	3229.12	3000.00	3200.00
Salaries of Janitors--Elem.	3171.44	3225.00	3550.00
Fuel & Heat--High	3280.39	2900.00	4000.00
Fuel & Heat--Elem.	5396.70	3100.00	4000.00
Water, Light & Janitor's			
Supplies--High	1591.82.	1525.78	2100.00
Water, Light & Janitor's			
Supplies--Elem.	1632.34	1889.22	2100.00
Repairs & Replacements--			
High	3395.62	1311.35	1250.00
Repairs & Replacements--			
Elem.	1544.82	175.00	1250.00
<b>Auxiliary Activities</b>			
Health Supervision	1780.67	2339.00	2425.00
Transportation	7160.31	7486.56	9306.70
Tuition--High	384.24		400.00

	Expended 1952-53	Estimated Budget 1953-54	Proposed Budget 1954-55
Tuition--Elem.	175.44		400.00
Special Activities & School Lunch	1816.05	175.00	150.00
Fixed Charges			
Teachers' Retirement	5243.05	6410.77	8070.54
Insurance	1532.39	1412.09	1450.00
Contingency		700.00	700.00
Capital Outlay			
New Equipment & Improvements		3613.39	2500.00
Land & New Buildings		400.00	
Debt & Interest			
Principal on debt	12000.00	12000.00	12000.00
Interest on debt	4000.00	3760.00	3520.00
Budget deficiency		3000.00	10000.00
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$164681.65</b>	<b>\$178127.32</b>	<b>\$200355.09</b>

\* Superintendent's salary \$6200.00 proportioned as follows:  
Lancaster \$2335.37; Whitefield \$1177.50; Carroll \$412.13;  
State Share \$2275.99. Travel \$700.00: Lancaster \$393.38;  
Whitefield \$249.21; Carroll \$57.41.

## RECEIPTS

	Receipts 1952-53	Estimated Receipts 1953-54	Estimated Receipts 1954-55
Balance	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 2.50
State Aid	10481.85	10000.00	21637.45
Federal Aid	3813.45	2400.00	1000.00
Trust Funds	83.36	45.00	45.00
Tuitions	15007.75	13800.00	12000.00
Town District--by Consolidation	1271.00		
Other	711.68	1000.00	200.00
<b>Total Available Receipts</b>	<b>\$ 31369.30</b>	<b>\$ 27245.00</b>	<b>\$ 34884.95</b>
District Assessments	135323.15	150882.32	165470.14
<b>Total Available</b>	<b>\$166692.45</b>	<b>\$178127.32</b>	<b>\$200355.09</b>

# SCHOOL WARRANT

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## THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

To the Inhabitants of the School District in the Town of Lancaster qualified to vote in district affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Town Hall in said Lancaster on the sixteenth day of March 1954, at eight o'clock in the evening to act upon the following subjects:

1. To choose a Moderator for the ensuing year.
2. To choose a Clerk for the ensuing year.
3. To choose one Member of the School Board from the former Town (rural) School District for the ensuing three years.
4. To choose one Member of the School Board from the former Union (village) School District for the ensuing three years.
5. To choose a Treasurer for the ensuing year.
6. To hear the reports of Agents, Auditors, Committees, or officers heretofore chosen, and pass any vote relating thereto.
7. To choose Agents, Auditors, and Committees in relation to any subject embraced in this warrant.
8. To see if the district will vote to authorize the School Board to sell or otherwise dispose of the rural school-houses not being used for school purposes, the proceeds from any such sales to be deposited in the capital reserve fund until such time as the district shall vote to use such funds for school purposes.
9. To see if the District will vote to allow the secretary of the Supervisory Union No. 31 and the school custodians to become eligible for the benefits of either the Teachers' Retirement System as offered by the Teachers' Retirement Act or the Social Security System as offered by the Social Security Act as they may choose.
10. To see what sum of money the district will raise and appropriate for the support of schools, for the salaries of school district officials and agents, and for the payment of

statutory obligations of the district, and to authorize the application against said appropriation of such sums as are estimated to be received from the state equalization fund together with other income; the school board to certify to the selectmen the balance between the estimated revenue and the appropriation, which balance is to be raised by taxes by the town.

Given under our hands at said Lancaster this 23rd day of February, 1954.

RALPH D. SHUTE, Chairman,  
JOHN E. GORMLEY,  
CLIFFORD R. GRAY,  
WALTER D. HINKLEY,  
WILLARD F. BEAN,  
HERBERT V. MAYBERRY,  
School Board of Lancaster, N. H.

**SCHOOL CALENDAR 1954 - 1955**

**SCHOOL CALENDAR 1954-1955**

<b>Term</b>	<b>Begin</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>½ Day Sessions</b>
Fall Term	Sept. 8, 1954	Dec. 22, 1954	144
Winter Term	Jan. 3, 1955	Feb. 18, 1955	70
Spring Term	Feb. 28, 1955	April 22, 1955	78
Summer Term	May 2, 1955	June 17, 1955	68
			<hr/> 360

**HOLIDAYS**

Columbus Day	Oct. 12, 1954
Teachers' Convention	October 1954
Thanksgiving Recess	November 25, 26, 1954
Good Friday	April 8, 1955
Memorial Day	May 30, 1955



## PLANS FOR 1954 . . .

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Installation of mercury lights in center of town.

Reconstruction of Stevens Terrace and upper High Street.

Painting of the outside of the Town Hall Building.

Completion of placing signs on all streets in the compact area.

## FUTURE PLANS . . .

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Erection of new modern highway garage.

Reconstruction of Main Street from Post Office to North Main Street.

**New Hampshire**  
**Annual Report Contest**

*This certifies that the town of*

**Lancaster**

*has been awarded second place  
in Class 4 for the year 1953 in  
recognition of the excellence of  
its 1952 Annual Report*

**Class 4 includes municipalities with populations from 3,000 to 10,000**

**Judges:**

**JOHN COUPAL  
MARY LOUISE HANCOCK  
TROY R. WESTMEYER**

**Public Administration Service,  
Department of Government**

**DAVID C. KNAPP**

**College of Liberal Arts,  
University of New Hampshire**

**EDWARD Y. BLEWETT, Dean**